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A wonderful seven bedroom family house with access to beautiful communal gardens

3,926 sq ft (364 sq m) | EPC rating: D

Entrance hall | Drawing room | Kitchen/dining room | Sitting room | Master bedrooms suite | Six further bedrooms |
Three further bath/shower rooms | Utility room | Cloakroom | Balcony | Terrace | Garden | Access to communal
gardens

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Kitchenette | Utility room | Two vaults | Garden

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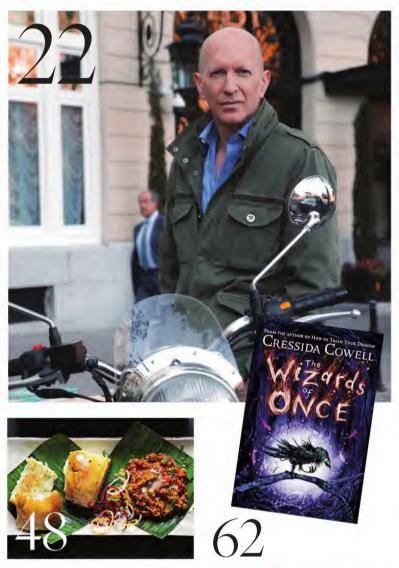
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OO The latest news in the property market from your area



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OCTOBER 2017

Letter from the EDITOR

ne of the main reasons I love art is the fact it's so subjective. One person's masterpiece is another's horror show. Producing an art special this issue, I know there will be some who take delight in the artists and gallery owners featured, and others who will turn their noses up at our choice. At least I should be right to some degree for once.

There's no doubting that art has the power to transform a mood, whether positively or negatively. I have recently moved, deciding to grow up and leave my cherished flat after 11 years. The first morning in my new home, with boxes all around me, I sat stoney faced looking



out at the garden. A garden! Haven't had to worry about that for quite some time. Then there was the boiler issue, the water tank to be updated, even a host of creepie crawlies who could never quite reach the sixth floor. Was I making a big mistake?

Then, slowly, the boxes were unpacked, rooms rearranged and our pieces of art and photography started to find a home themselves. Previously we have had to squeeze everything into one room, now we have the joy of space — and suddenly we can play around and give a particular room its own feel thanks to artwork.

So there will be plenty in here that rocks your boat, and plenty that doesn't. Our cover star Lucina Bellm, for example, is staging a rather pornographic exhibition this month, which gave our design team kittens when they saw it. It's not for me either, but there will be many who love it. That's art for you.



resident

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PORTFOLIO

{THE FINEST EVENTS AND NEW LAUNCHES}

HAIR RAISING

Enter the world of Dorothy Circus

Renowned contemporary Italian gallery, Dorothy
Circus Gallery, is excited to announce the
opening of its temporary British branch in
Notting Hill. On the occasion of its 10th
anniversary, the gallery will showcase
important pop surreal icons and new
international figures in a magical
meeting, beginning in London on 13 October
dorothycircusgellery.com

PORTFOLIO

Sound of movies

Mehdi Aoustin-Sellami, Head of Programming and Corporate Partnerships at Royal Albert Hall, on why their Festival of Film brings everyone together

What was the original inspiration behind the very first Festival of Film last year?

Our first film festival was in October 2016 and lasted ten days. We had been successfully developing our films with live orchestra programme on the main stage and, more recently, our film themed events in the Elgar Room, including talks and screenings. It made sense to pull it all together as a festival that expands even more into other parts of the building, and to tie it in with other media such as opera, hip hop, comedy, classical, and exhibitions.

When planning for the festival, what do you want to offer?

It's extremely important for us to offer a variety of events, and provide as much access to the Hall as possible through all our festivals. Popular events will return, as well as new shows like *Addams Family in Concert*, and screenings celebrating Marilyn Monroe and David Lynch. To provide something for all ages, we also have an array of exciting family events including *Disney Fantasia in Concert*, Fun DMC (with DJ Yoda), a silent film for kids hosted by Neil Brand, and a film quiz for kids. Pushing the range of events that we put on across the season, we also have a soundtrack silent disco in our loading bay, and a myth-dispelling talk on sharks to link with our auditorium screening of *Jaws*!





Is the festival a real showcase for film scores and their importance to the final cut?

Absolutely, particularly when there is nothing more magical than listening to the score live alongside a film in our expansive auditorium. It makes you realise the importance and power of the music behind a film. The festival explores this feeling across so many genres; Opera Holland Park's look at film arias will touch audiences, showing how this grand musical tool has delighted film viewers.

The Hall is renowned for classical music, and movie music is a true art form in itself – one that opens up the vast world of classical music to those who might otherwise imagine it to be stuffy or intimidating. We had silent films with orchestral accompaniment from 1905 to the end of the 1920s, then pioneered the modern film with live orchestra from 2009. It's fitting that movie music greats Michael Giacchino and James Newton Howard should have their first ever career retrospectives at the Hall, and that we should host such a major celebration of James Horner's life and legacy, on the stage where the legendary composer made one of his final public appearances for the world premiere of *Titanic Live*.



You open with a celebration of David Lynch – why was his work the ideal curtain raiser?

He was an obvious choice for us as music plays such a big part in his films, and we are very lucky to have *Lost Highway* composer Barry Adamson kick everything off with a Q&A. Lynch is also very current at the moment with the revival of *Twin Peaks*; such a cult classic.

I can't wait for the *Jaws in Concert* dates. Is this one of the most iconic soundtracks ever?

Well, John Williams is a master of his art and I am very excited, too, as I agree that there are probably few people out there who won't recognise 'that tune'. I was terrified of this film as a child, but now cannot wait to watch it alongside Williams' score!

What can you tell me about *I Can See The Future*, which runs throughout the festival?

We've teamed up with the Movie Poster Art Gallery, celebrating the 40th anniversary of David Bowie's quote 'Tomorrow belongs to those that can hear it coming' with this special exhibition of original posters showcasing the visions of the future of science fiction

Lost Highway

in cinema. There will be seven free open days throughout the festival for members of the public to come and have a look. This can also be combined with our Festival of Film Tour, which will give people a great insight in movies that have been filmed here.

Do you see the Festival of Film being a mainstay of the Royal Albert Hall's programme in the years to come?

We certainly hope so! So long as audiences keep enjoying the festival, the wonderful films, and their beautiful scores, then we will be glad to carry on for the foreseeable future.

For full listings visit royalalberthall.com



Here's a reminder about a fabulous competition *The Resident* is running with De Vere Hotels. Their mansion houses have undergone a recent transformation, creating a remarkable collection of country estate hotels. To celebrate their next chapter, we're giving you the chance to experience one for yourself. Win a two-night stay for two at the beautiful De Vere Wotton House, a picturesque country gateway like no other in the market town of Dorking, staying in a luxury Superior Room.

To enter, simply visit theresident.co.uk/competitions; T&Cs apply, full details can be found online



What a Drama

Situated within one of London's most exclusive haunts, Drama Park Lane is the new favourite party destination for an exclusive crowd of rule breakers and dream makers. Established by the team behind Cirque Le Soir and nightclub tycoon, Nick House, Drama Park Lane offers stunning high profile entertainment as it enchants the crowd with its vivid and unforgettable atmosphere. The spaces are filled with captivating decor, vibrant colours and eccentric wall art, offering a loud, impressive and dramatic night out as it bravely mixes bass with burlesque. Welcome to the neighbourhood.

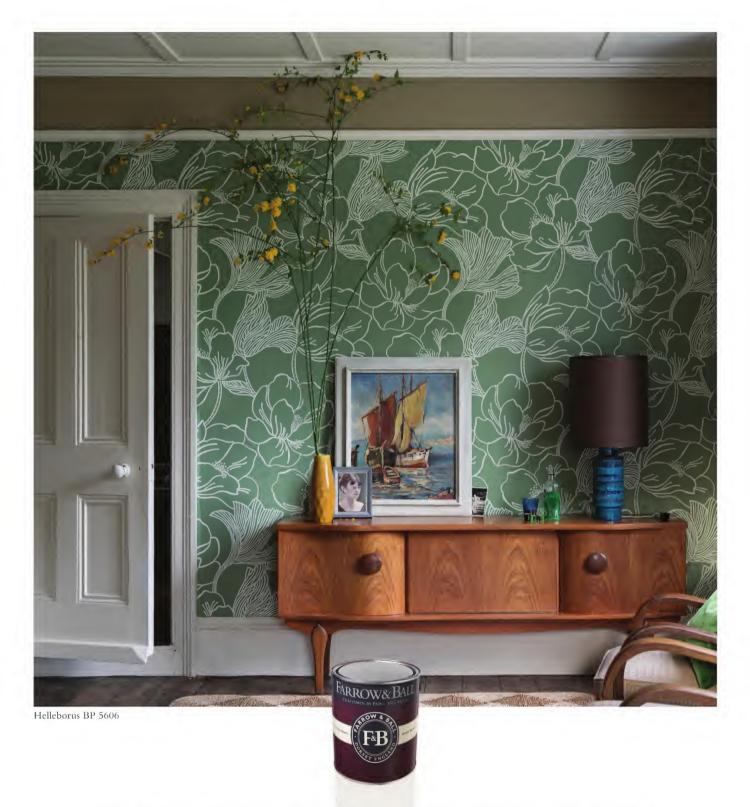
dramaparklane.com

IT'S A DOG'S LIFE

On 5 October Penguin publish Really Good Dog Photography – a unique collection of pictures packed into a beautiful hardback. The images are by a host of artists and celebrities, bringing out the best in man's best friend.



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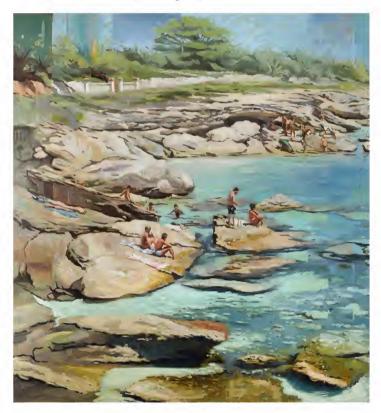
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Icons of our time

Saatchi Gallery presents *Iconoclasts*: Art out of the Mainstream, a major new exhibition featuring the work of 13 contemporary artists. *Iconoclasts* explores the experimental and often transformational practices of a small group of groundbreaking artists, inviting us to engage anew with what modern day Iconoclasm might be. By using a myriad of unusual imagemaking practices – from branding imagery onto human skin to sculpting curving structures out of crow feathers – these artists are breaking the mould, ushering in a new age of artistic defiance.

On now until 7 January; saatchigallery.com



A Greek odyssey

A lifelong ambition to sail the Ionian and Mediterranean seas has resulted in a new solo exhibition for contemporary figurative painter Johnny Morant showing at St James's Rountree Tryon Gallery. Inspired by a love of sailing and keen to immerse himself in local life, Morant's new show – Mare Nostrum – traces the artist's physical and emotional response to life at sea. The 60-piece collection of oil on mixed media deftly captures Morant's observational style using his unique and considered colour palette and viscosity of light. From the whirling brushstrokes in the Beach Seller to the dazzling, meditative colours of the sea in La Farfella, Morant calmly observes the sea, the beach and the people that occupy it.

On until 5 October; rountreetryon.com



GOING WILD

Maddox Gallery will open its new Westbourne Grove gallery with an inaugural exhibition dedicated to the work of the world's leading wildlife photographer, David Yarrow.

maddoxgallery.co.uk





Frieze frame

View, browse and buy world-class art from the best international galleries at the Frieze Art Fairs in the beautiful surroundings of Regent's Park. Frieze London showcases the best of modern art, and Frieze Masters specialises in art from the past. Also don't miss Frieze Sculpture, with work popping up in the park itself. frieze.com



Higher plane

Box Galleries and Guy Denning have joined together for his first solo show in five years this October in the heart of Chelsea. The new work encapsulates Denning's renowned abstract figurative style, but somehow he appears to have developed his work to another level. New unseen works will be revealed at the exhibition and prices range from £995-£8,000.

10-31 October at Box Galleries, 402 Kings Road SW10 0LJ; boxgalleries.com

The myth maker

Hignell Gallery is pleased to announce its second solo show of celebrated British sculptor, Sophie Ryder. Entitled *Tepozteco*, the exhibition will feature a series of new mixed media sculptures and drawings and will reveal the latest character to join Ryder's collection of mythical creatures and hybrid beings.

5 October-1 December at Hignell Gallery, 12-14 Shepherd Street W1J 7JF; hignellgallery.com



ANATIONAL TREASURE

As Kirstie Allsopp sets out on a new mission to find Britain's Best Teashop, we find out what makes Notting Hill so special

Words BETHAN ANDREWS

t strikes me as pretty special and, as someone who invests a lot of time in Notting Hill, downright rewarding to hear Kirstie Allsopp sing the praises of the area. I mean, she is the queen of *Location, Location, Location* after all, so I can't think of a better person to solidify it as one of the best locations in the country.



With all of her family in close proximity in Notting Hill, she calls it Allsopp and Anderson (her husband's name) land. 'I love that everything is in walking distance,' she says. 'The hill and the greenery in the area is what makes it desirable. We are the worst house in the best street, which is the advice I give everyone to take. Don't worry about kerb appeal because it could end up getting you into the best location. It's what you see when you look out.'

With the 23rd series of *Location, Location, Location, Location* hitting the screens now, Allsopp is a woman who keeps busy. But, as she tells me as I settle down in her Notting Hill home for a cup of tea, she will only take part in projects that she truly believes in. She really

is as honest as she is with Phil Spencer on the hit programme.

As we start chatting, Allsopp tells me how interesting it has been putting together her new cookbook, *Kirstie's Real Kitchen*. But perhaps most interesting is her collaboration with Clipper Teas, whom she has teamed up with in order to find Britain's Best Teashop this autumn. It's no secret that Allsopp loves the British craft scene and everything quintessentially British so this recent partnership seems to make perfect sense.

Clipper Teas, known for its extensive range of delicious teas, is proud to announce the launch of the first ever awards and felt Allsopp was the bastion of Britishness, perfect for the role of ambassador. 'It was one of those







projects that comes along and just makes sense. I've been a Clipper fan ever since the brand launched and I am honoured to be part of this competition,' says Allsopp.

'I always think that anything things that are that involves utilising my experience of going around the country is a good thing. Phil starting to celebrate

and I are often waiting for filming or

downright cold so there are always two or three sections of *Location*, *Location*, *Location* where we are in teashops. There are more pubs than teashops in the UK so I'm hoping that as ambassador I can convince people to create more.'

It seems like a great time for the awards to come about, as people are starting to really celebrate artisan roots and the homemade, home-grown idea. 'People want independent cafés and something that they become invested in,' says Allsopp. 'I went to a lovely teashop recently and they were doing a lot of stuff to support charity and it made it come together. It's what I would like to do when I'm older, set up my own little teashop.'

From the critics of all critics, I

can't help but wonder what would make a favourite teashop for Allsopp. 'It has to have a small but varied collection of cakes, perhaps a good brownie and a couple of things that are wheat and sugar free,' she says. 'I, for one, want to

> see something savoury like a cheese scone. I am a sucker for a coffee and walnut cake too.'

So does Allsopp have a favourite teashop in Notting Hill? 'Teas Me in Ladbroke Grove,' she says. 'I'll go there after dropping the kids at school – I love it.'

artisan roots

In just the way that I often feel

when walking through Notting Hill in all its beauty, peering down the mews and wondering what lies behind the stucco façades, Allsopp believes the reason *Location*, *Location*, *Location* is now in its 18th year is because of human curiosity. 'People love seeing inside other peoples' houses,' she says. 'It's the desire to see inside their lives. It's a privilege to be doing the job.'

Kirstie Allsopp is ambassador for the awards. Vote for your favourite tea shop until 9 October by visiting clipper-teas.com/tea-shopawards. The winning shop will be presented the Clipper Cup at the end of October







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HENRY CONWAY

Hooray! Marking the sumptuous Sloane revival

nstagram is today's window to the zeitgeist. Hopefully your feed is full of hilarious pictures with quips and witticisms to brighten your day, rather than Facetuned body bunnies that make you feel like Jabba the Hutt. Recently I have been getting replies to my posts with the hashtag of my old epithet 'Queen Sloane'. The tabloid press graced me with said nickname back when Kate was still a Middleton, trotting out of my nights at Mahiki, and one I didn't particularly shy away from. Having spent my formative years rolling up and down the King's Road in hand-me-down Gucci loafers and popped-collared double-cuff shirts, with just a hint of nail varnish to give it some alternative glitz, it was a crown that seemed happy to fit. That was the Sloane look then, but has it moved on? Stomping down the KR the other day, the Peter York classifications that held Lady Diana Spencer as the ultimate Sloane Ranger have seemingly been inhaled by fashion at large.

Sloane Rangerdom had its years in the wilderness – the grunge of the nineties and the turbo-glam of the noughties didn't fit well with the Hoorays. We find ourselves now at a time when London fashion culture ricochets between Californian monochrome street style and semi-toff. It can be seen in what the populous



drinks – either dyed-in-the-wool Brit (London gin or craft beer) or super Euro (Aperol and Negronis). You can't move for pocket squares on even the most Essex of lads, or muted suede ballet pumps for the Margate girls – what used to be the preserve of Nice Caroline is now mainstream. So what should you be aiming for if you want to retain your SW credentials, but set you apart from the Oxford Street wannabies? The devil, as always, is in the detail.

Princess of Wales pie crust collars, so beautifully championed for revival by Alexa Chung, obvs comes from Gucci, penny loafers can only be GH Bass (the original Kennedy favourite), and your suede boots should be Fairfax and Favour. Men can Euro it up with pocket squares from Thomas Pink and go wild with any form of disruptive sock pattern from the Swedish born Happy Socks. A jazzy ankle, I find, will take you far in life. As the weather sets in, cover up in Holland and Cooper tweed or a three quarter length coat from Oliver Brown on Lower Sloane Street (note an actual Sloane address). Entertaining, swerve lesser Made in Chelsea haunts, and take it back to the original – why not try seducing a date under the heaters on the terrace at the Bluebird, or go for some true old school glam, complete with live band, at Quaglino's (sadly now minus the stealable ashtrays that featured in every Chelsea flat worth its salt).

Many of you will be shocked that Sloane behaviour ever went away. Those staples of well-made clothes, jewellery from your grandparents, and getting jollied up on gallons of decent Burgundy are simply everyday life. Everyone is really a bit Sloane when it comes to it though – a brightly coloured trouser will always raise a smile, a solid expensive handbag stolen from an aunt will garner insta-worship, and a Lock & Co fedora will always save a bad hair day. Go on. Indulge that inner Sloane. It is the slightly battered, trusted old friend that will never let you down.

Follow @henryconway

Historic TEXTS

Kensington's Simon Sebag Montefiore reflects on his fascination with Russia, being a part of the children's book world, and why Cliveden is arriving on the scene

Words ALEXANDER LARMAN

istorian, novelist and now children's book writer; life as the acclaimed author Simon Sebag Montefiore does not sound like a bad one. His most recent work of non-fiction, 2016's *The Romanovs*, attracted stellar sales and glowing reviews, not least from Oprah

Winfrey, who, picking it as one of her book club choices, memorably said 'Turn off thy Kardashian!

Pick up thy Montefiore!' When reminded of this, its author chuckles appreciatively. 'The comparison's hilarious, but every writer feels enormous gratitude when someone likes their book, and if that someone happens to be as influential and well-loved as Oprah... well, that's a bonus.'

Sebag, as he is generally known, is properly successful. His non-fiction is published in 48 countries, with his novels (including his newest, *Red Sky At Noon*) appearing in 27. He's just returned from a 'fascinating and fruitful' visit to Hollywood to discuss the sale of his and his wife

Santa's children's book, *The Royal Rabbits of London*, which it is hoped will spark a major franchise. Yet

the charming and unpretentious Sebag is most interested in writing books that people will want to read. 'Everything that I've written has to succeed on two levels. It has to work as entertainment, but it also has to be intellectually and historically rigorous as well. I've been accused of being "too



My writing has to be

entertaining, but it has

to be historically

rigorous too





Russia has captivated Sebag for some time

entertaining to be readable", but my books have been heavily edited, and cut down into narratives. Many of my readers haven't read anything about the

topics before, and so this is the first time that they have

encountered it.' When asked who his ideal reader is, Sebag responds: 'I am! I don't aim at a specific market - or "quadrant" - as I want to write books that I want to read myself. I'm very lucky in that it's a hobby that has become a profession.' He's probably best known for his writing about Russia, which stems from a lifelong interest, and his family background; as he says: 'My mother's family were Jews from Eastern Europe, and my father's family were Victorian magnates who travelled to Russia, which led to events such as my grandfather meeting Nicholas I.

He confesses, however, that he is 'exhausted' by the country, and is thinking of tackling another topic next ('possibly South America'), although has plenty of interesting things to say about how his writing has reflected the current political situation. 'As Marx said, history happens once as tragedy, then as farce, so if you look at Putin, you can see the echoes of what's happened with Stalin – who is still thought of as a great man in that country, despite

having caused more unhappiness than just about anyone else in human history. And you can see that in this country as well; just look at the way that Corbyn and Seumas Milne have failed to condemn the appalling things happening in Venezuela, which implies to me that, on some level, they hate democracy and its practitioners.'

On a lighter note, the Kensington resident professes himself happiest when having coffee at the Ivy on Kensington High Street ('expensive but a treat') or browsing in Daunt Books in Holland Park and Marylebone High Street ('I go in to smell the air, if nothing else'). He's got a whole raft of appearances at literary festivals lined up for the rest of the year, but is especially excited about talking at the inaugural Cliveden Literary Festival, which he promises will feature 'the best writers of both fiction and non-fiction assembled in a very intimate setting, and an astonishingly beautiful place to boot'. With company like Simon Schama and Robert Harris, it promises to be a wonderful chance to catch up with the very crème de la crème of modern writers - just like the talented Simon Sebag Montefiore, who it would be easy to envy if he wasn't so incredibly charming.



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MAKING HISTORY AT CLIVEDEN

The stand out readings and events at the Cliveden Literary Festival

Saturday 14 October 10:00-11:00

Great Hall

PANEL: How the treasures of the past and present shape our future Going behind the scenes at our museums

Chair: Simon Jenkins Panellists: Nicholas Cullinan, Yana Peel and Hannah Rothschild

11:30-12:30

Clock Tower Marquee

Munich: Countdown to Catastrophe ROBERT HARRIS talks to Frances Osborne

The thriller writer on politics, power and his new book about two Oxford friends reunited at the Munich Conference, 1938, during the countdown to war. Note: All guests attending this session will receive a complimentary copy of *Munich*

14:00-15:00 Clock Tower Marquee SIR HARRY EVANS in conversation with Andrew Roberts

Publisher, author, journalist; Evans has been called the greatest editor of the

twentieth century.

14:00-15:00 Great Hall: Delicious RUTH ROGERS talking taste with Simon Schama

The risotto that started a revolution: Rogers on 30 stand out years of the River Café.

15:30-16:30 Clock Tower Marquee SEBASTIAN FAULKS in conversation with Miriam Gross

From Birdsong to Where My Heart Used to Beat, the novelist on his enduring obsession with love and war.

Great Hall Bowie: A Life DYLAN JONES in conversation with Simon

Sebag Montefiore
Award-winning editor, columnist and author Dylan Jones discusses his latest biography of the legendary musician

and icon.

Sunday 15 October
10:00-11:00

17:00-18:00

Great Hall
PANEL: A very Cliveden topic: politics,



sex and scandal

All about our favourite dangerous liaisons...

Chair: Michael Gove MP Panellists: Richard Davenport-Hines, Suzannah Lipscomb, John Preston and Hallie Rubenhold.

11:30-12:30 Clock Tower Marquee PANEL: Russia 1917-2017: From Tsars and Lenin to Putin and Trump

Discussing a century of revolution.
Chair: Simon Sebag Montefiore
Panellists: Anne Applebaum, Helen
Rappaport, Victor Sebestyen, Radek
Sikorski and Robert Service.

14:00-15:00
Clock Tower Marquee
Drama: How to put History on Screen
AMANDA FOREMAN and DAISY
GOODWIN in conversation with Natalie
Livingstone

Amanda Foreman on the pain and the pleasure of her biography becoming an Oscar-winning bodice-ripper, The Duchess, starring Keira Knightley, and Daisy Goodwin on fleshing out the young Queen Victoria and her passionate prince.

15:30-16:30 Clock Tower Marquee PANEL: Topsy-turvy politics and the new world order

A look at Brexit and what's next. Chair: Sarah Vine Panellists: Michael Gove MP, Kwasi

Kwarteng MP, Anne McElvoy, Stephen Pollard and Benjamin Wegg-Prosser

For full listings visit clivedenliteraryfestival.org











JOIN THE CLUB

Members' Clubs in London have been pushing boundaries over the last few years. Now, Samyukta Nair is focused on changing the format for the future

Words BETHAN ANDREWS











Samyukta Nair and the fabulous offerings at Jamavar



amyukta Nair is a powerful, intelligent and compassionate female and it is hard not to be completely in awe of her achievements and her warmth. She is the co-founder, with her father, of gourmet Indian restaurant brand Jamavar, which has five restaurants across India and recently opened its first London

its first London outpost, and her grandfather Captain Chittarath Poovakkatt Krishnan Nair established Leela Palace Hotels.

Hospitality, therefore, has always been a central aspect of her life – perhaps a reason why she is quite so infectiously warm and inviting. 'I love how so much of hospitality is about human interactions and relationships, and how these play out within business strategy,' Nair tells me.

'I have a real passion for design and under an apprenticeship with my mother Madhu, who is responsible for design and project development of our properties at The Leela, I learnt to create spaces that have a soul and lend themselves as distinctive experiences along with being functional in nature.'

I wanted to create

an antidote to the

long-standing 'boys'

clubs' of Mayfair

Now, she has formed a Women's Club at Jamavar as a platform to utilise these skills and to reflect the matriarchal

society she is so passionate about. 'I wanted to create an antidote to the long-standing 'boys' clubs' of Mayfair, to celebrate the strength and promote self-belief in women,' smiles Nair. 'I grew up surrounded by such powerful and talented women and felt that a Women's Club would be the perfect way and

excuse for women to get together, share stories and be inspired by each other.'

Surprisingly, in this day and age, it is still extremely rare to find a woman's only members' club so Nair is a part of the recent small rise in the offering. Since 1888, when the University Club for Ladies opened on New Bond Street at the instigation of Gertrude Jackson, from Girton College, Cambridge, only a handful of establishments have properly followed suit. Although clubs such as The Sorority, The Trouble Club and Grace Belgravia are also helping to fill the void, it is still something that has a long way to go in order to level out with the surplus male-only clubs.

So what can be expected at this one? At each event, there is an inspirational guest speaker. 'The likes of Florence Knight, chef, *Sunday Times* food columnist and author; Isa Guha, an England cricketer who was the first British





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Asian female to play sport for England; Joa Studholme, Farrow & Ball Colour Consultant; and Tamara Rojo, Spanish ballet dancer and Artistic Director of the English National Ballet, make the line-up,' explains Nair.

'Our Executive Chef, Rohit Ghai, has created a bespoke Women's Club menu from his rich experience in regional Indian cooking. It is a laid-back atmosphere where women can talk to each other openly, ask questions and connect.'

Nair hopes to provide an experience that leaves the guests feeling inspired, having learned new things and having shared their stories and advice with each other. She tells me how she feels that in such a diverse place as London





exciting things in

the pipeline

there is a plethora of potential to learn from different backgrounds, talents and areas of expertise, and I strongly agree.

'There are lots of exciting 'I feel that comparing things in the pipeline,' says Nair. women chat 'I'm particularly There are lots of

particularly excited for Diwali, where Jamavar will be hosting a oneoff formal

"Suits & Saree's" dinner on the 15 October and I hope to hold more events next year and invite exciting speakers to them. There are so many more successful and creative women who are in the position to inspire others.' Does Nair feel that there is a gap in the market for more women's members' clubs going forward? 'Yes, definitely,' she says. 'I feel that compared to men, women chat openly and easily, so

there is definitely a need for a more relaxing environment in which women can network.

While women may bring a male guest to the Women's Club, it's really rare to provide a space that is so focused on purely women and their achievements.'

We've come a long way in the world of feminism and women are



being rightly celebrated for their achievements more and more, but does Nair feel like it is enough? 'Nowadays women are being commended more and more, but in my opinion, it is still not enough,' she says. It's a good job, then, that we've got women like Nair pushing the boundaries of tradition and providing powerful and wonderful women a platform to come together and continue to inspire, create and network.

We are particularly excited to see where this leads for different women all over London. I couldn't



leave the interview without asking Nair what the concept of a powerful female means to her. After all, she is at the forefront of leading and powerful women all over the city.

'For me, being a strong female means you are resilient, and that you believe in yourself,' she states. And what would her advice be for women all over the world? 'Having studied and worked in business for so long, I've realized that facing problems head on makes you stronger.'

8 Mount Street, Mayfair W1K 3NF; jamavarrestaurants.com



ANOTHER GRACEFUL WOMAN

Kate Percival founded Grace Belgravia in 2012 as a women's only members' club. Here, she tells us why she established it and what she wants to offer women

I wanted to provide a beautiful, peaceful space for women to focus on nurturing their health, wellbeing and ageing well, where under one roof they could access the best of the best in terms of medicine, fitness, food and spa. A sanctuary to recalibrate and restore one's equilibrium, to be better placed to gain head space to be able to think clearly and to emerge physically, mentally and emotionally stronger to deal with the pressures of daily life while gaining more time for work, children, husbands, family and friends.

There's been a paradigm shift which means that women recognise that collectively they are a force to be reckoned with, and can be the catalyst for change within our work spaces and our culture for the benefit of all women, not just the plethora of high flying groups that we see being established; women in banking, women in advertising, women in medicine, women in private equity, women in film – there are so many!

This influx of female focused informal organisation made me realise that women were actively seeking each other's company, in business as well as socially. It's not that they don't love their husbands and partners, but they do often have a deeper conversation with women.

Women have become less competitive with each other, more embracing and there appears to be a sorority that is stronger than it has ever been. At Grace, we are catering to that unique bond between women and fostering deeper connections. I think they enjoy the fact that Grace is the one space in their busy lives where they can escape the pressures of work and family life.

Everything we do at Grace has been designed with women in mind, meaning that we focus on treating common modern day afflictions such as poor quality of sleep and lack of energy. Our medical clinic is focused on preventative medicine and we have world renowned practitioners and consultants specialising in hormone therapies and functional, environmental medicine.

Being able to really make a difference to women's lives makes me incredibly proud of the work the whole team are doing here. From medical practitioners providing incomparable expertise, to bespoke training programmes created by our gym team and even simply our bar staff remembering member's names and having their favourite juice ready and waiting after a gym class – it makes a huge difference. Every day brings another member who experiences the impact of Grace on their life, and when they leave it trickles into the rest of their life; work, relationships, home, friendships.

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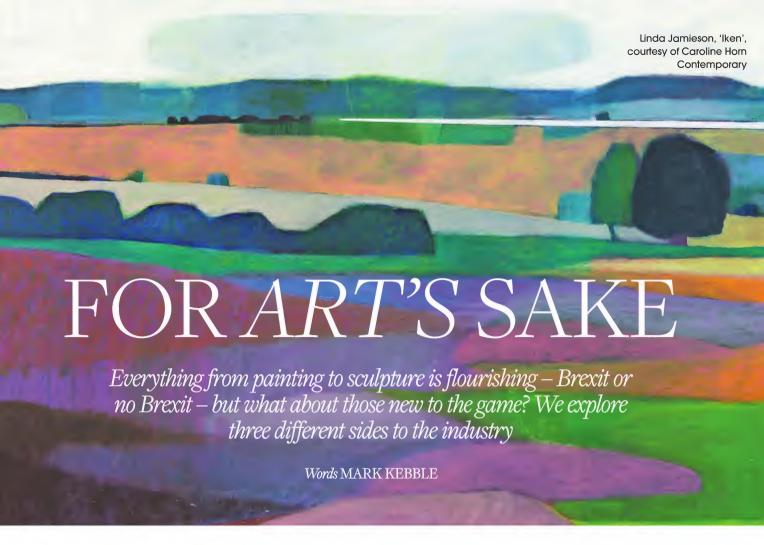












rom the established King's Road galleries and Notting Hill hubs going against the grain, to showroom heaven in Mayfair, the arts have never had it so good. Surely, then, this means those new to the industry have a wealth of experience – in more ways than one – just waiting to be embraced. Or do they?

In this art special, we look at three different sides to the industry: those looking to start their own collection, the new faces on the block, and the challenges with bringing something previously unexplored to the area. It paints quite the picture...



Affordable Art Fair Battersea

Director Luci Noel

How excited are you about this year's Affordable Art Fair?

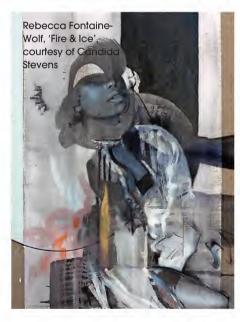
This will be our 19th year in Battersea and we're excited to be returning. I'm especially looking forward to exploring works by the up and coming talent taking part in our Recent Graduates' Exhibition, which will include an arresting neon installation by Romily Alice Walden that looks at how dystopian online culture affects perception of the female form.

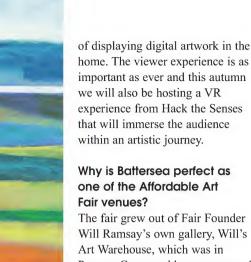
What trends may we see at this year's fair?

Two particular trends in the art world at the moment are seemingly poles apart, with artists either embracing new tools and digital technologies, or returning to timeless craftsmanship. We are seeing a renaissance of traditional materials and techniques, even amongst emerging artists. At the Battersea fair you'll see works by Cathy Lewis represented by Jamm Gallery. Lewis works meticulously in bronze and jesmonite to depict the human form. The childhood humour of her superhero series contrasts with the traditional technique and beautiful craftsmanship. Philippe Mohlitz, represented by Galerie Calderone, works in a variety of scales to etch

otherworldly scenes in minute detail. The works shown at the October fair are some of his smaller pieces, and with each interaction the viewer will uncover new surprises within these superbly cluttered narratives.

At the same time, we're also seeing a lot of artists working with new technology such as 3D printing and exploring new ways





The fair grew out of Fair Founder Will Ramsay's own gallery, Will's Parsons Green and has now moved to Putney. He found there was a real gap in the market for a place where new and seasoned collectors could find affordable, accessible art from galleries throughout the UK and beyond. Battersea Park was in the heart of a residential area full of art lovers who were interested in having something original on their walls, and it was important to Will that the fair be on their doorstep. The location in the park also meant that a visit to the fair could become a real day out for families. Fast

forward to today, and Battersea is experiencing huge changes and redevelopment, but is still imbued with a sense of community and still home to art lovers who want to embrace something original in their homes.

Doing what it says on the tin, is the art on show still in the affordable category?

Being accessible and affordable is at the very heart of our philosophy. We have a price ceiling of £6,000, but that doesn't mean you need a budget that high to find something brilliant – a significant portion of works at our fairs are available for under £1,000, or even £500. Some works at the top end of the scale have included limited edition pieces by household names such as Damien Hirst, Anish Kapoor, or Marc Quinn, and at the other end of the spectrum, we have some very desirable printmakers at the fair, with pieces available for less than £100.

Many of our galleries accept

payments through the Own Art scheme or a similar instalment plan. This allows you to spread your payment for a piece over a longer period – up to 20 months in some cases – all with an interest free loan.

Would you have any tips for buying art in the home?

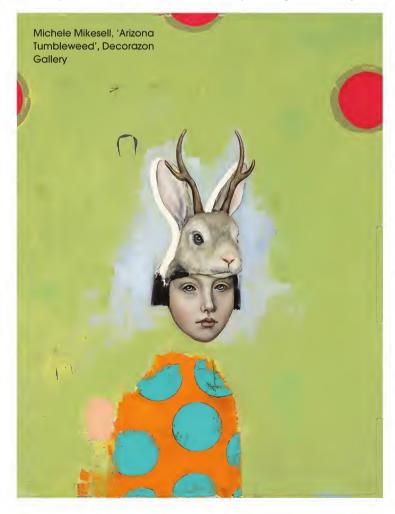
If you're just starting your art collection get out and see art in person, head to your local gallery and scour their collection to see what moves you. Art fairs are also a fabulous opportunity to see a huge variety of art all in one afternoon, as well as offering a wealth of information from the gallerists and artists themselves. You'll be amazed at how easy it can be to find the styles of work that inspire you, and you'll soon hone in on your personal taste and preference.

When you're looking for a piece, it can help to have some practical considerations in mind. Think about the spaces in your home, what you use them for, and how you could enhance them with new artwork. A selection of works hung in a salon style will look quite different to one large piece that can command the whole room's attention.

If you have a particular space in mind, take some measurements before you begin your search and bring some photos along with you to the gallery or fair. This will help you to visualise how the piece will look in your home.

How much of a statement does a good piece of art in the home make?

Art represents something different to everybody, it's a complete expression of ourselves and for a lot of people, it makes a house a home and can really bring a room to life. A blank wall can be transformed into a talking point for guests, a way to escape from your everyday stresses or the ultimate expression of the owner's personality — it's all about having the confidence to trust your taste. affordableartfair.com





8

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Founder Mark Hix

Can you talk to us about the Hix Award and how it first came about?

I had this space below the Tramshed that had been used for events and I suddenly had an idea one day that it could be used as an art gallery or as a space for emerging artists, sort of the unknown ones if you like. So I got a couple of friends together who could help me to curate some shows in the early days and it sort of just gained momentum from there really. I then went on to think about how we should do an award for college graduates, so all of the art colleges could submit their students' best work and then we could show a range of artists in the gallery. We go through around 600-800 entries and whittle them down to the last 12-15 and then they are judged by the committee. It's always difficult to get it down to the last 12, but it's got to be done that way.

What would you say that you are looking out for? Does it change year on year?

We're looking for something slightly different each year and

with a mixture of different means such as sculpture, drawing or painting – we make sure that there is always a nice mix. In the room itself, we sort of make sure that there is an equal mix of art. We don't want to just pick all paintings or all sculpture.

What did you want to offer people when you set up the award?

The idea is that it is aimed at the younger artist that the big galleries wouldn't necessarily be interested in, and giving them a show. Some of these young artists who have just graduated, they do send their work to galleries and often don't get responses, so we are that middle ground platform as a stepping stone. Some people that we've given stage to down in the gallery have gone on to be great artists who have really superb work. I like to see it as a stepping stone and then giving them the ability to go on and do more stuff and the confidence to do it. It's an opportunity. I think with the Hix Award as well, a lot of people get to see it and they get a show in the gallery. There is also an extension of the show at Coutts Bank as they are a sponsor of the award and the prize money this year is £10,000, which is almost half the money of the Turner Prize. It's an attractive prospect.



From your experience within the art industry, how hard is it for people to get a break?

It's very hard, which is partly why I'm doing what we are doing so that it gives people the opportunity to get out there. I think that the more opportunities that you can give, the better as many people can't even afford to get a studio in the new generation of artists.

What would your advice to artists and people entering the industry be?

My advice to budding artists would be to get yourself out there and look for opportunities. You've just got to be brave really, and do what you have to do to get out there.

When did you first become interested in art?

I lived in the East End for 20 years in Shoreditch and got to know a lot of the artists and became interested in it, plus I was given a lot of work so I started collecting stuff. Then, because I was interested in it, I wanted to hang stuff in the restaurants and support a mixture of well known artists, but also the younger generation. I have a huge mixture of work and a good old mix of genres too. I only really buy artists that I know.

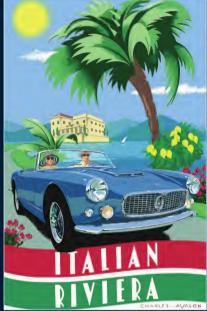
hixaward.com

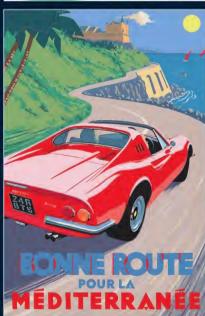




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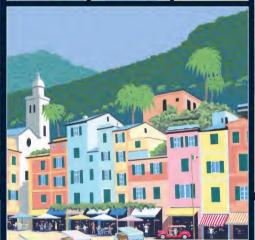
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Our central London gallery

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Founder Lucinda Bellm

How did art first come into your life?

Well I initially started working in internships when I was 15, mainly in art galleries and museums. So by the age of 24 I already had a really firm and strong vision about what it was that I really wanted to do. So I spent a lot of time in Cuba buying works from the late 60s and 70s where I eventually brought them back and I sold them and that's what led me to this gallery, hence why we work a lot with a focus on Latin American art.

So the initial basis of the gallery was built on Cuban works from the 70s, and slowly but surely I built a programme in the Mayfair space that focused very much on mid career Latin American artists who had so much attention over there, but hardly anything over here. I was looking around London and there was no-one really representing Latin America. Everyone was doing Chinese contemporary or African contemporary so I decided to branch out here and put that as my niche.





You set up your Mayfair gallery so young (at 26). Were there a lot of challenges involved being in the art world at that age?

The truth of the matter is, coming into the art world at that age, of course is very daunting. But it gave me the leeway to ask as many questions as I wanted without being embarrassed. People knew I was young. It also allowed me to work harder, so I was actually really happy that I bit the bullet and did it that young.

What's the art world like In Cuba and Latin America at the moment?

When I arrived the art world was in the uprising of a boom in Brazil and it was a huge art community that was growing. There then came a lot of financial problems in the last two years, but the art market is still very established.

What about over here?

When I started Latin American art was a taboo. People thought I was crazy. Then the influences of a lot of Peruvian and Latin American cuisine in London and fashion, and funnily enough the Olympics brought attention to Brazil. It might have been that I have now been in business for four years or that people are just starting to suddenly pay attention, but it's now on the map.

Can you talk to us about your next exhibition?

My next exhibition is two Colombian artists, Jim Amaral who was born in 1933, and Valentino Cortázar who was born in 1949. Both the works were discovered in their studios separately in Colombia two years ago. Amaral's is a body of work that he's never shown, based on a surrealist fantasy of the artist's mind, so they were just sketches for him. They were very pornographic, vivid and in some ways a fantasy but other ways, himself – they are incredible.

The work of Cortázar that I discovered in his studio in Cartagena, which is on the beach in Colombia, three years ago was when I was poking around and discovered this beautiful book from 1979 that had been hidden away since then. It was a book he did when he was journeying around the Balearic Islands and my family live there so the connection was immediate for me. It was also the year that he met Salvador Dali and became great friends with him. He went with a body of work to his house and Dali said: 'You are a valiant artist and you can not have a name like Elvaro so you have to change it to be successful.' And he has always been referred to as Valentino since then. So they focus on Colombian artists of a completely different generation.

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NATHAN OUTLAW

Reflecting on the first year of international business at Al Mahara

When I travelled out to

Dubai I was amazed by

what I saw

never dreamt that a visit to Outlaw's Fish Kitchen by the General Manager of Burj Al Arab would lead to me opening a restaurant in Dubai. In fact, when an e-mail arrived asking me to do that, I thought someone was playing a joke and initially dismissed it! However, when I did travel out there I was amazed by what I saw.

And I have to admit that my ideas about Dubai before I visited were somewhat sketchy. That first trip was a real eye-opener, not only from a point of view of seeing the sumptuous, almost unbelieveable

interior of the hotel with my own eyes, but also because of the realisation of a burgeoning 'foodie' scene that exists there.

Once I began to think seriously about the logistics of opening at Al Mahara, my first concern was sourcing ingredients to the standard that I expect. However, when I walked through the kitchen I saw a delivery of fish from Cornwall, so, of course, it was the thing that made up my mind. Plus, being asked to open a restaurant at a venue as iconic as The Burj al Arab doesn't happen every day, does it?!

M Mahara in Dubai

I'm very lucky to have a solid core team behind me, and many of them having worked with me for many years. Head Chef Pete Biggs previously worked in my restaurants in Cornwall and London and he jumped at the chance of this challenge, as did Restaurant Manager, Sharon MacArthur. From here, it was just a matter of getting the Al Mahara team

familiar with the way we work.

As with all openings, the run up was hectic but fortunately we opened on schedule. For those already working at Al Mahara, it was quite a change. My style is

relaxed and laid back and I can't stand stiff, starchy restaurants where you are afraid to move. I think that this was initially quite a challenge for the team to adjust to, but they gradually settled into things and I think, now, they enjoy the more relaxed atmosphere.

The menus are based on my restaurants in the UK with a few tweaks to appeal more to the Dubai customer. However, there is no difference in the quality of the fish we use or the standard of the cooking and that was important to ensure from the off. I travel to Dubai every 6-7 weeks, spending a week there in order to ensure standards are where they should be and I'm in constant contact via the phone.

Back in the UK, I've worked hard to build up a network of suppliers able to provide a reliable service and high quality, sustainable ingredients. Pete and I are working with local suppliers in Dubai now too, so that we can put more of their produce on the menu.

Reflecting on the first year, it has been busy, it's had its ups and downs, but I'm so glad I opened in Dubai. I'm looking forward to making more progress with the suppliers, to improving our offering even more and to experiencing more of this truly fascinating country.

Outlaw's at The Capital, 22-24 Basil Street SW3 1AT; nathan-outlaw.com

KEEP IT ON THE HUSH

As the iconic Mayfair Hush bar and restaurant celebrates its 18th birthday, we discover why it's still a place people are shouting about

Words BETHAN ANDREWS

ar from remaining on the down low, Hush Mayfair is attracting swarms of people to their ever popular haunt 18 years after first opening the doors. So what has made this particular eatery so well loved? Surprisingly, for a venue that is so renowned, I learn that neither Jamie Barber nor Geoffrey Moore, the co-founders of Hush, came to this from a restaurant background – quite the opposite in fact.

The duo were introduced by Moore's father, Sir Roger Moore, who called on Barber, a lawyer at the time, to offer some advice to Moore because his attempts at setting up a chain of spy themed restaurants had ended in chaos. 'We didn't have a clue, no money and no track record of what we were doing. We did both go out a lot in those days though so had a good idea of what it was that we liked,' explains Barber.

'It was all done so quickly and in such a crazy way, and we really didn't know what we were doing. I remember sitting down with Geoffrey, his father and a guy we had hired to be our head chef three weeks before opening and trying to decide on a menu. Now, it would be planned months in advance!'

But it definitely started with a bang. 'We had a fantastic opening party and Sir Roger Moore came along with his friends, people like Joan Collins and Michael Caine. Victoria Beckham had also heard about it and, at the time, she was filming this documentary called *Victoria's Secrets*,' says Barber.

'She literally phoned up and asked if she could cover it with her film crew. We were like, sure! She came and was absolutely fantastic,





she made martinis behind the bar. It was all over the papers and I suppose that was the start of Hush.'

It was much bigger than they expected – something that seems to be a running theme in the timeline of the iconic place. Talking to Barber and Moore, it becomes clear that they do things on a whim and that they genuinely never expected it to become the iconic establishment that it is today.

'We set out to do something that was fashionable, but we didn't want to make it super high end and trendy,' Barber says. 'I think that is a testament to why we have been here for a long time because trendy places date quickly. We wanted to create a classic, an institution and somewhere that would be there in 18 years. We've done just that.'

They had noticed a gap in the market, for somewhere you could eat at 4pm in the afternoon. 'We used to get Guns n' Roses coming in and all sorts,' says Moore. 'They used to come and have a burger and no-one knew who they were.' So what was it that they wanted to offer people in the beginning?

'We wanted it to be a private member's club that you didn't have to be a member of,' explains Barber. 'So there are lots of little areas you can go and sit at. You can constantly

change your relationship with Hush – Italian food one day, private event on the top floor

another, brunch outside another. It is a very democratic member's club that you don't have to pay for and that will always suit your mood.'

The menu is like a greatest hits of the things that they like to eat, Barber tells me and it is this that he believes sets them apart from other Mayfair restaurants and bars. 'It's personal and we offer people something that we would only be happy with,' he says. 'As long as we feel comfortable here, then hopefully other people will like it.'

Impressively, they tell me how many people have remained loyal to Hush across 18 years. 'Some of them are no longer with us, people like Tony Curtis,' says Moore. 'But there are a lot of faces that come regularly and many of the Hush faces on the wall are these people.'

Despite wanting to remain a feeling of an institution and keep their familiarity factor, they do change things up as time moves on. They keep the heart in place but

We used to get Guns

n' Roses coming in

and having a burger

always try to do new things. 'In October, we launched Classics in the Courtyard where we show classic movies

outside, with blankets, hot water bottles and chocolate,' says Barber. 'We like to keep people interested.'

In fact, after 18 years, it turns out that this has been their top performing year ever. They are very much still going strong. But let's keep this on the hush, hey? As we don't want the world flocking to our favourite haunt.

We're joking, of course, and we also can't stop shouting about it from the rooftops either. So come and join the party at Hush Mayfair – the more the merrier.

Lancashire Court, 8 Brook Street W1S 1EY; hush.co.uk





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THE IVY WEST STREET

Words ALEXANDER LARMAN

he Ivy is probably the most famous restaurant in London. Countless generations of celebrities have passed by The Mousetrap's doors en route to the entrance, where the doorman, much friendlier in aspect than his previous incarnations, either welcomes you in or

gravely tells you: 'I'm afraid that we're fully booked tonight, sir.'

The Ivy now celebrates its centenary, and the legion of offshoots that have recently opened might suggest that the brand of the original has been in some sense diluted. This is unfair, and untrue. If one expects haute cuisine, one will be disappointed. If one expects the very finest of modern British brasserie cooking, served with the odd adventurous twist, one would visit an institution that has as much to offer in its hundredth year as it ever has.

The food remains as comforting as it ever has been. Some of the dishes have an Asian accent, which we don't sample, but burrata and Italian tomatoes is just as welcome as a starter of squid and chorizo. A chicken curry dish is exemplary, if slightly unexpected. But a perfect



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steak on the bone shows that this old dear is more than capable of shaking her rump, or flank, or any other delicious cut, and keeping up with the new guard.

I am reminded that the wine list is one of the best in London, and we saw the evidence of that, a fine Bourgogne being a

wonderful accompaniment to the starters. But, ultimately, the Moroccan wine that was suggested with the steak and curry was something altogether more interesting than the usual drab Burgundy or Bordeaux relic. And the espresso Martinis that appeared, as if by magic, to accompany the signature dessert – a chocolate mousse called 'window on the Ivy' – were perfectly judged.

The original Ivy is still a special treat. When you step into its glorious environs, you are not simply walking into a restaurant, you are taking part in history. And for that, if nothing else, a visit here remains one of the essential parts of London life.

5 West Street WC2H 9NQ: 020 7836 4751; the-ivy.co.uk

FOOD NOTEBOOK

A celebration of the young and old











FRESHLY SERVED

Cubitt House, the locally run, independent collection of public houses and hotels serving Belgravia, Knightsbridge, Pimlico and Marylebone, is excited to announce the re-opening of The Alfred Tennyson in the heart of Belgravia following an extensive refurbishment. Breakfast, lunch and dinner is served every day from a menu that focuses on a daily changing specials board.

10 Motcomb Street SW1X 8LA; cubitthouse.co.uk



THE GRAND

Nestled in the heart of South Kensington, The Duke of Clarence has re-opened following an impressive renovation. With a chic new bar, stunning dining room and a focus on small and large plates, The Duke of Clarence offers an impressive setting for both residents and visitors to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

148 Old Brompton Road SW5 0BE; 020 7373 1285;

thedukeofclarence.co.uk



FULL ENGLISH

A vantage point overlooking the Royal Mews of Buckingham Palace is a suitably regal location for the jewel in Victoria's crown, The English Grill – an elegant new brasserie-style restaurant that has opened its doors at The Rubens at the Palace hotel.

020 7834 6600;
rubenshotel.com

3 of the best...

LOCAL INSTITUTIONS



Joe Allen

On 1 September Joe Allen, the historic theatreland restaurant at the heart of Covent Garden, re-opened the doors to its new home at 2 Burleigh Street. Joe's have taken everything with them, from the iconic bar to their New York brasserie dishes.

joeallen.co.uk



Texture

To mark 10 years, Michelin-starred restaurant Texture will host a series of collaborative dinners with chefs this month. Texture's Chef Patron and Owner Aggi Sverrisson will team up with Raymond Blanc, Vivek Singh, Arnaud Bignon, and Ollie Dabbous.

texture-restaurant.co.uk



Zuma London

Celebrating 15 years in business, Zuma in Knightsbridge offers something completely new – a sophisticated twist on the traditional Japanese izakaya style of informal eating and drinking. Expect an authentic flavour of the east with a nod to the traditional.

zumarestaurant.com

REAL TASTE OF INDIA

We may have two Masala Zones right on our doorstep, but both will take you on very different exotic journeys

Words JENNIFER SHARP





thought I knew everything about Indian food, having visited the country many times and eaten in London's best Indian restaurants. But when Masala Zone opened in Soho in 2001, it was a revelation. Instead of the swanky princely food I'd experienced, here was authentic

street food enjoyed by every social class on the sub-continent. Delicious little mouthfuls to eat with your

fingers like dahi puri filled with chickpeas and spicy chutney, or gol guppa, wholewheat biscuits with lentil and tamarind. There were curried vegetable samosas, minced lamb kebabs, crisp fried prawn from Goa, and Mumbai's ever popular pao bhaji, a chillied vegetable mash with caramelized pao bread. These were street snacks enjoyed by generations of Indians: children on their way home from school, lawyers at lunchtime and ladies in bright saris on a shopping spree.

This informal style of eating was brought to London by a trio of high-achievers: sisters Camellia and Namita Panjabi, along with Namita's husband Ranjit Mithrani, all Indian-born, Cambridge educated, with careers in banking, fashion, the British government

and global marketing. They also loved food and wanted to show that genuine Indian cooking is a far cry from mystery meat curry and numbing spices. And so Masala Zone was born, with a cluster of specialist chefs and traditional naïve artists recruited to paint an enchanting interior. It was a breath

They wanted to show

that Indian cooking is

a far cry from mystery

meat curry

of fresh air and London has loved it.

There are now seven Masala Zones and, hooray, two are within

easy distance of my home in the Royal Borough. The one in Bayswater occupies a sunny corner site at the eastern end of Westbourne Grove, while the other is on the corner of genteel Childs Place where it joins the bustle of Earls Court Road. Both serve fabulous food and a more ambitious menu than the informality of those early days. Kick off with an exotic cocktail like a Hyderabad highball using Tanqueray gin, Suze bitters, curry leaf and tonic, or a delicious Tollygunge summer punch with Bombay Sapphire, Lillet vermouth, pomegranate liqueur and dry ginger.

The original street food section has evolved into a large range of starters and grazing plates including Angrezi corn and cheese pakora traditionally eaten during the monsoon, quail with fresh coconut, and a divine South Indian chicken pepped up with star anise and fennel. There's a selection of the now-familiar thalis with a whole meal served on a silver platter, or you can order from a selection of grills - marinated lamb chops are a must - with griddled sea bass or spicy roast duck. The curry section offers many regional favourites using lamb, chicken or shellfish, but we were tempted by one from Gujarat using nine exotic vegetables and served with an Indian take on risotto. Pride of place is the section devoted to biryanis, the luxurious and legendary slow-cooked one-pot dishes usually based on meat and rice. Masala Zone however has an unusual variant, using seafood, coconut, chilli and fine hand-made rice noodles like vermicelli. Absolutely delicious.



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Every aspect of the menu has been updated and improved. There is a lavish collection of breads, chutneys and vegetable dishes including a 'fresh potato of the day' (ours came with creamy cashew nut sauce), and 'fresh veg of the day' (we had luscious aubergine with green peas, tomato and onion).

And then to desserts. Yes, I know everyone says they don't like Indian puddings - too sweet they say - but I guarantee you'll change your mind here. The syrupy unctuousness of Gulab Jamun with ginger ice cream will have you swooning, as will Rasmalai patties in a creamy saffron sauce. Sorbets and ice creams are vastly superior to most restaurant versions and there's chocolate fudge walnut

brownie spiced up with chilli and cinnamon. It's a real gourmet adventure, and while the wine list has been cleverly chosen to work well with the menu, there are lots of soft drinks, fresh juices, specialist teas and coffee, and playful non-alcoholic cocktails with names like Rickshaw Reviver and Bollywood Beats.

The improved menu is echoed by newly revamped interiors to make a more inviting and sophisticated space. No two Masala Zones are the same so there's none of that deadening sense of a chain. In Bayswater, flamboyant lamps and chandeliers cast light on rich textiles, an eclectic mix of mirrors and souvenirs, and tall columns peopled by courtly heroes on

horseback from a Mughal past. The Earls Court Road restaurant has colourful paintings, pierced screens and eye-catching artwork. You can sit near the front and watch the endless theatre on the street, but the slightly raised rear section is darker and more seductive with a few curved banquettes to suit larger parties.

No two Masala Zones are the same so there's none of that deadening sense of a chain

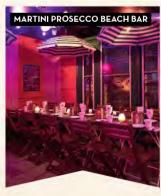
I'm intrigued that both versions of Masala Zone attract a wide range of diners, from groups of friends and romantic date nights to family celebrations. It's very good value too and though we are very greedy and order far too much, you can have a satisfying two course meal with a drink for about £35 a head. Don't be afraid to take your children. It's the best introduction to Indian food they could possibly have - and they're bound to end up loving it.

Masala Zone Bayswater, 75 Bishops Bridge Road W2 6BG; 020 7221 0055 Masala Zone Earls Court, 147 Earls Court Road SW5 9RQ; 020 7373 0220 masalazone.com (Jennifer Sharp, a freelance editor and writer, has lived for more than 20 years in the Royal Borough of **Kensington & Chelsea)**











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AARON SIMPSON

The life you lead doesn't have to be the only one you have

We rarely feel better

connected to our 'self'

than when we feel

connected to others too

s we think about 2018 and tackle the luxury trends ahead of the curve, I'm always delighted at people's insatiable appetite for travel, in all its forms. Some products slow

down or go out of fashion, yet we see an uptick in specialised travel when things get dreary or uncertain. You'd think it would be the opposite, but in exclusive circles, that's far from the case.

We are currently seeing a move towards long trips (longer than two weeks, and more like

three, four or five) that allow for taking it all in, as well as taking it easy. We have seen experiential travel boom in 2017, but given our own clients' requests recently, what our members are looking for in 2018 is

themselves. And while that may sound banal, if you think about the amount of time we spend travelling to work, at work, on our devices, surrounded by wall-to-wall virtual chatter, it's no surprise people need more than a spa retreat to clear their heads. A chance to reassess and (why not?) to achieve something big that's 'other', whether it be climbing a mountain or taking a particularly challenging trek. The single biggest draw to travelling like this is going through a

positive transformation that is bigger than the experience itself.

I think that's the crux of it and why travel never goes out of fashion. We rarely feel better connected to

> our 'self' than when we feel connected to others too. And I don't mean on Facebook. Authentic connections with local people when you're travelling can make all the difference, especially if it's during a shared experience like trekking up a mountain, or

getting involved with an animal sanctuary (we see a lot of clients looking to get partake in eco-friendly conservation-style itineraries), and you'll be far more likely to feel engaged. Sustainable transformational

> travel stems, I believe, from a growing understanding that we impact on everyone and vice versa, and that can only come from spending time with your eyes open, meeting people, doing extraordinary things to help, to explore and to change. I'll be exploring how to make these kinds of travel even more sustainable and transformational for holidaymakers and the locals in the months to come... I

quintessentially.com





STONE ME

Leading heritage and British lifestyle brand Barbour has collaborated for the first time with English Heritage on an exclusive Stonehenge collection.

Launching on 7 September, the collection will feature two exclusive menswear jackets named after Stonehenge stones, alongside knits, shirts, accessories and bags.

barbour.com



On our watch

The BOSS Allusion watches are essential accessories for confident contemporary females. Iconic BOSS design language translates detail into powerful signature looks. Understated is the new beautiful. £249, from hugoboss.com

RESIDENT STYLE FILE

The latest in fashion to catch our eye



Keep an eye on

Finlay & Co., the sunglasses and spectacles brand tipped for success by Anna Wintour, will open its first ever store in October 2017, based just off Carnaby Street.

finlayandco.com



London calling

Having built a brand that modernises the classic British style inspired by both equestrian and heritage, Harrods favourite Holland Cooper has announced a store opening in the Cotswolds - but their iconic designs will still be on sale right here.



OVER THE HILL Lavender Hill Clothing have launched a pop-up with the Good Place Chelsea, until 10 Nov. lavenderhillclothing.com

A little tweed

With over 177 years of heritage, Farlows are a true British institution. New for this season the Pall Mall store has launched a beautiful range of new British tweeds to add to the family of pieces across the collection including a traditional Gun Club check on a caramel brown base with soft, subtle brown, green and mustard overchecks. farlows.co.uk



ANEW BUSINESS

Wild at Heart just keeps on growing but the most recent collaboration from Nikki Tibbles and Bloom & Wild is perhaps the most exciting development yet

Words BETHAN ANDREWS

lowers are a powerful thing and, recently, there seems to have been somewhat of a floral outburst and a movement toward really celebrating, day in and day out, blooms in all of their different shapes and sizes. People seem to be enjoying them more than ever today, and Instagram has created something of a new aesthetic when it comes to nature.

One lady who is particularly celebrated is the woman behind Notting Hill's stalwart flower shop, Wild at Heart. Multi awardwinning Nikki Tibbles is among the UK's finest premier florists, known for an opulent and creative approach to blooms and botanics.

Wild at Heart flowers iconically flank the entrance of the Liberty department store, as well as being housed in the Turquoise Island shop in Westbourne Grove and a boutique in the heart of the popular design district, Pimlico Road.

Bloom & Wild, too, is one of the UK's fastest growing floristry brands, recognised for its innovative development of in-house technology and signature letterbox packaging. Since launching in 2013, the company has grown at several hundred per cent per year.

So, what could be better than a collaboration between the two floral powerhouses? Both brands have firmly established themselves as pioneers in distinct aspects of the floral realm – Nikki Tibbles for a visionary approach to flowers; Bloom & Wild for innovation in mobile, packaging and chain supply. Their marriage results in a harmonious partnership merging the most modern technology with iconic British flower design.

And how will the partnership work? 'Nikki is designing a collection each season inspired by seasonality itself as well as floriography: the meaning of flowers,' says founder Aron Gelbard. 'Flowers hold so much symbolism, it's time we have a new iteration of their meaning for the modern day. The collection is sold exclusively on Bloom &

Flowers are incredibly symbolic and can often say more than words

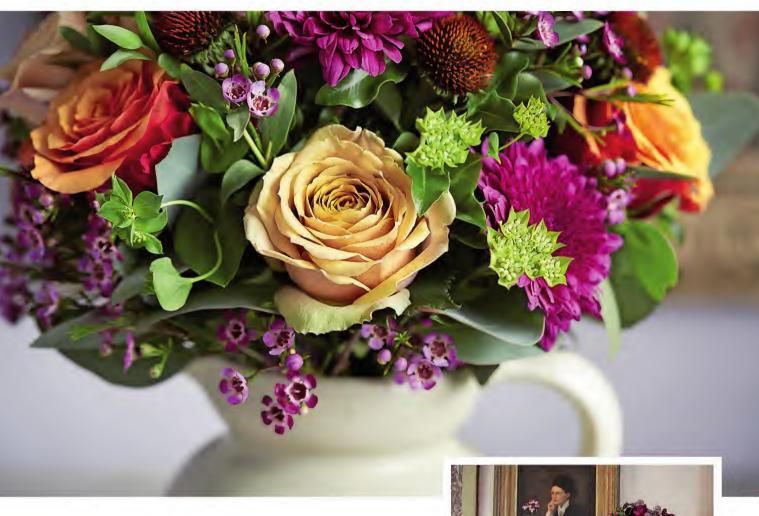
Wild, as well as our apps, where you can pre-order each collection before anyone else.'

When Bloom & Wild launched in 2013, Tibbles tells me how she remembers thinking what a revolutionary concept it was and it was this memory that made her decide that a collaboration would be the perfect idea. 'Their letterbox packaging really has changed the way people shop for flowers online,' she says.

'With their innovative use of in-house technology, they continue to be pioneers within the digital space of the floristry industry, making beautiful flowers completely accessible on a nationwide scale and beyond. The iconic Nikki Tibbles Wild at Heart style mixed with very modern and inventive technology is a contrast that works perfectly!'

The concept of floriography was also an important part of the pull toward the collaboration for Tibbles. 'Flowers are incredibly symbolic and can often say more than words,' she says. 'The concept of modern heritage puts





new and current meaning into flower gifting and it brings back romance to the industry in a much more relatable way.'

It's easy to see why this coming together of talents has happened so naturally too, as floristry to Gelbard is about enabling people to turn an emotion into an action. 'Flowers have so many meanings and offer a sustaining presence as a gift to remind you of those who can't always be there with you,' he says. 'In an age of "busy" - a modern symbol of our time - and the new ritual of sending a whatsapp instead of a card, it was this that made us think that we could deliver next generation gifting to inspire a more thoughtful generation.'

Tibbles tells me that she is most excited about the way in which the art and design industry has been engaged within the project. 'The collaboration has already received incredible support from influential people in the fashion, art and design industry which I am very grateful for,' she smiles. 'It is an amazing opportunity to work with such inspirational people and find out exactly what flowers mean to them. Designing each bouquet has been a real joy, and I'm excited to share this with our customers.'

She is clearly someone, like Gelbard, who is always looking forward and changing people's perceptions of familiar things. It was this quality within her that led her to Notting Hill in the first place. 'At the time, there was nothing like Wild at Heart in the area. I saw a gap in the market and the desire for luxury flowers, so it was a sound business decision,' she tells me.

'The beauty of the Turquoise Island was a main selling point for me. I am always drawn to completely original concepts and ideas, to have a florist shop in a listed building that is also home to the famed public toilets is a quirky juxtaposition, so why not?'

Of course, Notting Hill is a

huge part of the inspiration that fuels the ideas that Tibbles comes up with, which is perhaps not surprising considering how many green spaces there are. 'Notting Hill has always been a place of inspiration for me, the quirky characters on Portobello Road, the beautiful architecture and the annual spring blossom that never fails to leave me in awe,' she says. 'I love the proximity to Hyde Park too, essential when you have six rescue dogs to walk!'

Nikki Tibbles Wild at Heart x Bloom & Wild; bloomandwild.com

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HEALTH & BEAUTY NOTEBOOK

Rounding up the latest in wellbeing



The Jasmine & Neroli Face Oil by Rodin is rich in evening primrose and sweet almond oil, as well as a jojoba seed oil blend, all of which soften and rejuvenate the skin. £75 - 15ml; libertylondon.com

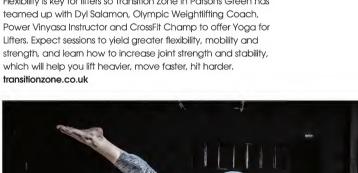


SILVER SERVICE

Limoz Logli is a name adorned in the little black book of London's elite. Situated in Chelsea, the hair salon's interior has recently undergone a complete design overhaul. limozlogli.com



Flexibility is key for lifters so Transition Zone in Parsons Green has teamed up with Dyl Salamon, Olympic Weightlifting Coach, Lifters. Expect sessions to yield greater flexibility, mobility and which will help you lift heavier, move faster, hit harder.



Sweet smell of success

The Jovoy Perfumery in Paris showcases an unparalleled selection of fine fragrances from across the globe. This extraordinary perfumery has long been the destination of choice for fine fragrance lovers in the know - and now they have opened in Conduit Street, Mayfair.

21 Conduit Street W1S 2XP; jovoyparis.com/en

GREAT ESCAPE

How a trip to the Suffolk countryside could be just what you need



ith modern life proving more and more hectic and challenging every day, it's important to have a place to relax and unwind. Hintlesham Hall is striving to give visitors exactly that. Nestled in the heart of the beautiful Suffolk countryside, the hotel offers individually designed bedrooms, a luxurious spa and fine dining. Hire a bicycle and explore the local area or just relax in the beautiful gardens. Nearby attractions include a wealth of picturesque villages, Constable Country, the estuaries of the River Orwell and Stour and the historic market towns of Long Melford and Lavenham. If you are a golfer there is an 18-hole golf course adjacent to the hotel.

However, if you fancy just relaxing, the hotel's spa awaits you. Providing a wide range of treatments using products by Elemis, Mii Cosmetics and St Tropez, guests can choose from many different facials, to nourishing body fixes, and massages to soothe the body and mind.

Food is also the hotel's passion and they only source the finest, freshest and most sustainable ingredients from local suppliers, with fruit, vegetables and herbs now being grown in the hotels very own gardens. The hotel is particularly famous, as legendary cookery writer and television chef Robert Carrier once owned it! Carrier bought the hotel back in 1971 and was the beginning of the Hall's longstanding reputation for exquisite food. Now the present owners still uphold the reputation for fine dining under the direction of executive chef Alan Ford.

So go and enjoy a little spot of luxury without travelling too far... For bookings, visit hintleshamhall.co.uk or call 01473 652334





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SPACE TO PLAY

Luxury resale booming amongst high-net-worth and super-rich after London Fashion Week

f the end of London Fashion
Week has inspired you to get
your hands on designer goods,
there's no better time than the
present. That is, according to
Cudoni, a premium service
dedicated to helping busy people
sell their pre-owned luxury goods.
They claim that the city's high-networth-individuals and super-rich
cleared out their closets for the
biggest event in the fashion
calendar, and now all those items
must find a new home.

'It makes sense,' the founder of Cudoni, James Harford-Tyrer, states. 'The season has now changed and people want the most current items available. Fashion Week has changed the mood, and people don't want to fall behind.' This statement is clearly reflected by their customer-base, which has seen a sevenfold increase in number since the brand re-launch in May of 2017.

From fashion to accessories and tech gadgets, there are gems to be found in the Cudoni vaults, such as the iconic Hermès Birkin bag and an exclusive Patek Philippe Nautilus watch worth five figures. According to Cudoni, this has boosted average basket values by 300% over the summer. Other luxuries include a classic Burberry





Prorsum trench coat in heart print, Gucci Marmont metallic gold pumps and a custom Chanel clutch bag.

Harford-Tyrer spoke of their recent success in glowing terms: 'It's fantastic to see how far we've come in just a few months.

Demand has been unprecedented; we've had to hire several new team members and source private warehouses to store incoming stock. August especially was a record month, with people making space for this season's trends.

They're also selling more; average basket sizes have increased by 40%.'

Harford-Tyrer credits Cudoni's success to the VIP service offered to all who join and the company's ability to generate higher earnings for its customers, an average of 30% more than they would find if they sold items on their own. He

adds: 'As schedules fill up with responsibilities, people have less time and patience for sifting through sales platforms and uploading information about products. We've found this is especially true amongst London's super-wealthy. Simultaneously, there is a raised awareness and dedication to sustainable living. It's not just the thrill of the sale, people also want to lessen their environmental impact.'

It seems clear, then, that with Fashion Week behind us and a cold winter looming, people will be increasingly eager to make a change. We wish Cudoni every success during this period, as they sell many more exciting items on behalf of their clients. After all, there is only so much space in one wardrobe.

Find out more at cudoni.com

IT'S A KIND OF MAGIC

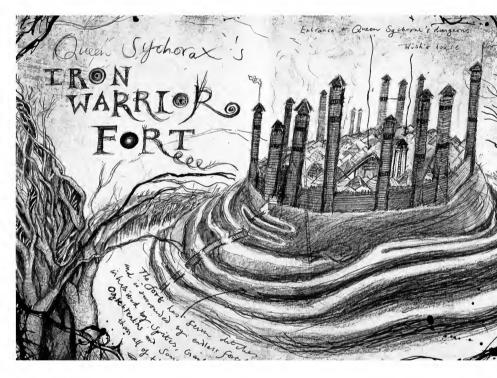
The delightful Cressida Cowell discusses her new children's book series, the charms of home and identifying with an elephant

Words EMILY PAINE



ressida Cowell is laughing uproariously as she remembers taking her young children to Avignon for the holidays. 'By the time it was the end of the journey my children were taking their clothes off in a little mound of crisp papers, covered in a light dusting of wotsits, running up and down the carriage, and all these French children were,' she mimes sitting perfectly. 'And I was thinking, "Oh God". But I think you have to be terribly stern,' meaning, presumably, to turn out the impeccably behaved offspring, and stern she is not. She is warm and thoughtful and vivacious, serving tea and biscuits in her beautiful sunlit sitting room in Hammersmith. I point out the dragons on the teapot, wondering if she minds being forever cleaved to her smash-hit book series (and film and TV spin-offs), How to Train Your Dragon. She looks at me politely as if I am mad. 'Gosh, no, of course not!'

Fame came relatively late, which she says was lucky, as it gave her time to get used to it.



She'd already completed two degrees, one in English at Oxford and another in Illustration at Brighton, before getting a publishing deal when she was pregnant with her first child (she now has three). In those early years while the children were young, she worked two or three days a week, so she could get 'a proper long stretch in' and was, by her own admission, 'quite determined. All my friends had proper jobs by then, so I really felt I needed to prove myself.' Which she did, in spectacular style, selling over seven million copies of her 'Hiccup books', as she refers to them (the hero of How to Train Your Dragon is a boy Viking, Hiccup Haddock III) in 38

languages. It is also an awardwinning Dreamworks film series, and a TV series shown on Netflix and CBBC, and has made Cowell, for families with children of a certain age, a household name.

All of which one can imagine might make the launch of a new book series not entirely emotionally straightforward. 'Yes, when I was writing those first books, nobody was watching, or paying very much attention. I suppose there is more... expectation now. Maybe in a way it's quite liberating, because you think well, I've written one that's gone really well, so if this one doesn't, well...' She gets a steely look in her eye. 'But it's very exciting. I suppose I think OK, can

I write something that's even better? I do like a challenge.'

The first book in her new series is gripping, and promises great things, as Dreamworks clearly agree, having already acquired the rights. Loosely speaking, it is set in Britain in the Iron Age and deals with two protagonists, Xar and Wish, who come respectively from magical and warrior clans, taught to hate each other from birth. While the landscape of the Hiccup books was bleak, set in the Inner Hebrides, The Wizards of Once series deals in grassy knolls and the charms of the Sussex South Downs, where Cowell's grandmother resides, with clear influences from English fairy lore (think The Tempest rather than Flower Fairies).

The things that inspired her were, as always, what she had loved as a child. 'I write the kind of things I would have liked to have read as a kid,' she says, and for the *Once* series, she drew on books such as *The Wizard of Earthsea*, *The Sword in the Stone*, the *Diana Wynne Jones* books.

Having the impressive advantage of being able to illustrate as well as write, her ideas began with her drawings, and says she felt at first as if she was 'lost in a dark and scary wood', working out the parameters of the world she was creating and not quite

Cowell's fabulous sketches bring characters to life

knowing what the story would be. Her drawings bear a marked contrast, between the beautiful, pensive sketches of snow leopards and giants, and her so-called 'scratchy' drawings of the 'hairy fairies' and vivacious, mad-cap characters. This contrast is also clear in the voices in the book — between, say, the epic sweep of the narration and the casual modern patter of the human characters.

She says she has to re-write obsessively to get things as she wants. 'In the end you have to accept that it will never be as marvellous as it is in your head,' she says modestly. Despite the stringent editing, she says she never throws out

any ideas as being too complex for children. 'Of course not, they understand everything. And I never talk down to them.' She is a passionate advocate for the National Literacy Trust, for whom she has been an ambassador for over ten years. 'It's a medium under threat,' she states.

She writes in a shed in her garden, a dreamy spot shaded by a tree and covered in roses, with illustrations from her books and photographs adorning the walls. 'I sometimes can't believe that I can make a living making things up. I never knew anyone growing up who did that sort of thing for a job,' she says. The photographs show the unnamed Scottish island where family holidays were spent that was the inspiration for Hiccup - a tiny island with nothing on it whatsoever, where a fishing boat would drop the family off and return to collect them at an agreed time a fortnight (or a month) later.

As the oldest child, she was 'in charge of entertainments', telling stories and 'putting on plays, writing them, putting them together, everything'. She credits that island life with giving her such vivid reading experiences, and

informing her creativity. She has visited with her own children, although 'not for nearly as long as we used to go when I was a child', perhaps partly because by her own admission she is a worrier (the island is completely cut off in terms of transport and phone signal). 'I identify absolutely with Matilda's mummy,' she laughs, referring to the elephant in the picture book *Emily Brown* series (also highly successful, winner of the Nestle Children's Book Prize

Gold Award).

Although she says she arrived in this area 'by accident' because her husband's job (he is the former director of Save the Children) was based here, Cowell has now been here for 17 years. She went to St Paul's girls school nearby, but hadn't necessarily intended to come back as an adult, loving the countryside

and all things to do with nature. Now she enthuses about the area's many parks, and the countless local amenities. 'There are so many lovely green spaces, and there's a real community feel, it feels like a little village. There's a very nice Japanese called Yoshi Sushi just around the corner, and a French bakery on the corner here the Patisserie Sainte Anne. And lovely shopping - in Turnham Green there's As Nature Intended, which is a great supermarket for things that are organic. I'm very keen on that kind of thing.'

The *Once* series is currently planned as a trilogy, and she is adamant, she claims, that it is not going to run to 12 books, as the Hiccup series eventually did. 'Although who knows, my daughter read my plans the other day and said "Mum, you're never going to do this in three books!" One way or another, there is plenty more to come from Cressida Cowell.

The Wizards of Once is out now. For the latest news follow @CressidaCowell



70 years of teaching children to fly



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Open Morning for Years 3-6 (ages 7-10)

Saturday 14 October 9.30 - 12 noon (entry via Hunts Slip Road)

Parents and boys will tour the College with our current pupils, meet staff and hear the Master, Dr Joe Spence, talk about Dulwich College and Dr Toby Griffiths about the Junior School. No appointment is necessary.

The offer of a place in the Junior School is the offer of a place at Dulwich College to age 18.

Mid-week visits are also available by appointment. Please call Junior Admissions on 0208 299 8432 or visit dulwich.org.uk/junior-school





Open Morning for entry into Year 7

Saturday 7 October 9.30 - 12 noon

Tour the College with boys, meet staff and hear the Master, Dr Joe Spence, talk about Dulwich College. No appointment is necessary.

Other opportunities are available to visit the College during the school day. Dates can be found on the Admissions section of our website, www.dulwich.org.uk, or please telephone the Registrar's Office on 020 8299 9263.



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KARA O'REILLY

Reading something rather extraordinary

he duo behind one of my absolute favourite e-poriums is publishing their first book, Extraordinary Interiors, and rather fabulous it is too. The intention of Jane Rockett and Lucy St George of – you guessed it – Rockett St George has been to write a book on how to bring personality to your space. As this is one of my perennial obsessions, it's probably no surprise that I have been rather seduced by it.

While the very on-trend, predominantly noirish colour palette of the real homes featured might put some off, look in-depth and the book is full of achievable ideas and do-able tips. Not to mention

lessons learnt by the authors through the process of creating and evolving their own homes to suit changing family life. I, for one, wholeheartedly agree with their view that: 'Every home is a work in progress and the interiors should grow and develop along with the occupants. We... think of a home as a place that needs to be continually improved and tweaked, with things constantly being removed and added to suit your current lifestyle.'

The honest approach about what has worked – or not – for them means you can take on board their tips as tried and tested. You might think that some of their advice is pretty obvious to anyone with an interest in interiors, but, actually, sometimes it's useful to have the obvious properly spelt out.

Chapters are broken down into areas such as feature lighting and curating collections, followed up by real home examples that exemplify said advice – with the authors highlighting key elements and ideas that they like in each: a bold wallpapered ceiling or a cleverly put-together picture wall, for example.

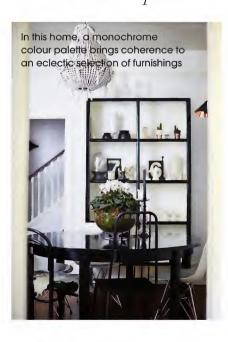
Overall, it's a book that's about celebrating those quirky touches or simple things you can do to make a house your home — which gets me onto the topic of other interiors books that really do inspire. In no particular order, of recent-ish publications, I have loved Hilary Robertson's *Monochrome Home, Abigail Ahern on Colour* and her earlier *Girl's Guide to*

Decorating, and Emily Wheeler's Creative Living London. Looking back, Ilse Crawford's seminal Sensual Home and, as a counterbalance, the charming antithesis that is Living Normally by Trevor Naylor.

All have influenced my thinking about the concept of 'home' and creating a space that is true to you; while *Extraordinary Interiors* has resulted in a list of 'must-do' mini projects that I may just actually undertake during the dark days of impending winter...

Extraordinary Interiors by Jane Rockett and Lucy St George, with photographs by Debi Treloar (Ryland Peters & Small, £19.99) is published on October 10. Order a copy at rockettstgeorge.co.uk

Every home is a work in progress and should grow with the occupants





GREAT MINDS THINK ALIKE

The dynamic duo behind interior design company, March and White, tell us about their inspirations and why collaboration is key

Words BETHAN ANDREWS





ames White says that he has 'a creative curiosity to explore beyond the boundaries of architecture and interior design.' His business partner Elliot March goes onto say that 'to create is [his] instinctive default. [He is] fascinated by the process that turns

a vague, abstract idea into a tangible object or place that is effective, functional and beautiful. A luxury.'

It's clear, then, from the very off that both White and March have a special passion and hunger to learn about all things design. And together, they create an interior design dream team. Having both met at architectural school where they decided very quickly that there was a mutual appreciation of aesthetic, they collaborated on projects early throughout university, then worked apart at architectural firms before setting up the studio in 2010.

March & White places the art of collaboration at the centre of

everything that they do, in both their own relationship and their relationships with their clients. It is this that often sets them apart from other firms. 'I enjoy seeing influences distilled and cross pollinated in the work we, Elliot and I, create with March & White,'

We want to create

purposeful, yet

alluring spaces

says White.

'Our work brings us in very close proximity with our clients. Learning how they live, work

and enjoy their lives informs the work we create for them. It is an enriching exchange that informs more than just the specific project.'

But what is it that they wanted to bring to London that they felt wasn't happening anywhere else? 'We wanted to fuse the rigour of architecture with interiors and create spaces that are purposeful yet alluring at the highest possible level,' says March. 'We have coined the phrase "intelligent creativity", which is the consideration of the basics, where space, form and light all come into play to create unique projects.'







James White, left, and Elliot March, right

It's immediately evident when chatting that travel is a huge influence and part of what they do. London is a big focus for them, particularly the luxury market, but they go much further than that — perhaps not surprising for two people with huge creative dreams.

'We tend to describe our work and our ethos as "elegance with an edge",' explains White. 'All of our work has to be elegant to become realized. The edge comes from our travels and global perspective from having offices in London, New York and Los Angeles.'

Lucky for the people of London, the pair see the city as the centre of what they offer. 'London is where we started, our home and where we are headquartered,' says March. 'Our unique global perspective allows us to draw from our experiences in other global cities and apply elements back to London, and this enriches the notion of central London luxury living when we design projects here.'

The constant travelling has allowed exciting influences to seep into their designs here in London, another element that stands out. 'A lot of our inspiration is influenced by our extensive travel schedule that takes us around the world to meet our clients,' says White.

'We are also influenced by automotive, jet and super-yacht design and are at the key launches to experience the cutting edge innovations. We apply this inspiration back to our projects.'

With a lot of projects within the areas of Notting Hill and Mayfair, March & White feel that each one of these have their own different story. 'The projects we have completed are all different. Each has its unique twist on residential living,' says White. 'Not one project is the same from family homes in Notting Hill to residential developments in Mayfair. What underpins each is our commitment to design, quality, and detail that resonates with our clients.'

Royalty Mews is one of their most recent projects. 'The project is located in a small mews within Soho and as such we took our inspiration from the area both night and day,' says White. 'The interiors became very rock and roll luxury with strong metal accents and punches of colour together with a very interesting art programme.'

They tell me that without doubt Project Jupiter was their most memorable moment as a company. 'Being given the opportunity to design the interior for a £123m super-yacht and executing at the highest standard with the world's most renowned Shipyard allowed us to go beyond what we believed was possible,' says March.

And what's next for March & White, considering they seem to be taking the design world by storm of late? 'Apart from continuing to work on some very interesting projects worldwide, we are currently working on our own capsule collection and are launching our first exclusive product,' smiles White. 'The ultimate luxury drinks trolley, which will be available to buy before the festive season.'

marchandwhite.com



FLOURISHING FLORALS

Taking a look at the captivating floral theme for the new wallpaper collection by Farrow & Ball

ritish craftsmen in paint and paper, Farrow & Ball, has unveiled its latest collection of new wallpapers. Taking inspiration from the current trends of texture, maximalism and returning to nature, the experts in colour have introduced three contemporary floral wallpapers that are richly textured and uplifting twists on traditional patterns.

Taking its name from the Greek goddess of fruit and flowers, Hegemone is wonderfully optimistic and looks almost as if it has been cut from paper. Less rigid and defined than a classic floral pattern, each colourful petal blooms freely in all directions.

Inspired by a brightly coloured fabric found nestled in an old mill, Atacama has a playful tropical print. Named after the flowering South American desert, the intricate botanical design combines rich textures and delicate patterns.

For its new collection, Farrow & Ball has experimented with a range of scales exploring the expressive trend of maximalism, creating its largest motif design yet, Helleborus. First drawn with a pipette for a sense of unrestrained fluidity, each petal feels as though it is unfurling on the wall. Latin for the hellebore flower, the organic pattern creates a sense of growth and rejuvenation, transforming the home into a warm and wonderful retreat.

Handcrafted using Farrow & Ball paint and traditional block printing methods, the new collection creates a seamless



connection between paint and paper. Each design is available in seven colourways from soft neutrals and muted pastels, to striking colour combinations with metallic accents. Colourways range from bold Stiffkey Blue and Vardo, to earthy tones Cromarty and Mahogany, as well as neutrals Ammonite and Purbeck Stone.

The new wallpapers are now available to purchase from showrooms, stockists and farrow-ball.com







owering over Chelsea on the top two floors of the Chelsea Creek Tower, the Tower Penthouse is a sight to behold and is over 5,400 sq ft. There is also extensive external terracing with al fresco kitchen, cocktail bar, dining area and hot tub, perfect for entertaining. With a kitchen and a staff kitchen too, there is no stone left unturned.

The exquisite five bedroom duplex penthouse is located on the top two floors of the prestigious Chelsea Creek Tower. This penthouse offers extensive living

areas and terrace space with panoramic views over the London skyline, and is an apartment of magnitude and grandeur, where there is simply no comparison.

Instantly, and unsurprisingly, the

first thing you are drawn to is the view. 'We wanted to keep that airy and light feeling,' starts Heidi Aiad, director of design at Lucarna, the

company that designed the interiors of the property. 'We wanted to bring the outside in, so you'll find touches of feathers and other natural elements throughout the property. There are really fine details and we use a lot of sycamore wood.'

Naturally, due to the high value of the property and the prestige factor that comes with it, the design had to include a certain level of luxury – much of the property feels like a hotel. That isn't to say it doesn't feel homey. Quite the opposite and, somehow, Aiad has managed to achieve both and has done a really great job at ensuring that there are cosy spaces. Everything within the property is entirely bespoke, cementing it as a luxury and unique offering.

'The luxury comes with materials such as soft velvets,

satins and these really beautiful bronze trims,' says Aiad. 'It's such a large space and it can be quite overwhelming when you first walk in, so it was important for us to dress the space, frame and zone the

> areas.' It's all about environments that have been created in order for the buyer to really envisage their lifestyle in

their home.

The luxury comes

with materials such

as soft velvets, satins

and bronze trims

The entertaining space fully utilises the views as its own artwork, with huge mirrors reflecting the incredible panoramic vista as framed pieces of art. It is the most breathtaking view of the city, and you can find yourself discovering new parts of London that you didn't even know existed as you walk around the property.

'What is really nice is that it is two completely different environments in daytime and night time,' explains Aiad. 'Right now in the daytime it's quite tranquil, but in the evening with all the lights coming on and nuances in light, it is such an entertaining space. But when the fireplace is on, it is so beautiful and feels like a really toned down and zoned out family space. You can pull the screen across to create a smaller space.



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With a nanny room, it is expected that this would be for a family.'

The artwork is a huge focus bedrooms, ea within this property, due to the high value of the accommodation. It has therefore all been carefully selected and bedrooms, ea styles and destroy the styles and sty

curated with the buyer in mind.

'With this project we had an art curator from Broadbent Gallery in South Kensington and we picked through his collection,' says Aiad. 'It meant that everything was perfect for the home – the right size, colour and tone.'

The penthouse incorporates five bedrooms, each with different styles and design schemes

> depending on what they are likely to be used for. But it is the master bedroom suite that covers the entirety of

the top floor that is the most special. With direct and full floor to window access onto the panoramic roof garden, it would feel as though you were waking up in a five star hotel every day. 'This offering is important for a penthouse of this value,' says Aiad. 'It offers luxury, prestige and privacy too for the buyer. And it's hopefully like nothing people will have seen before.'

And it doesn't end there either, because residents of this penthouse also have exclusive use of The Spa, in addition to the state-of-theart health and fitness centre in Chelsea Creek, with an indoor swimming pool, sauna, steam room, gymnasium and treatment room. This is not to mention that, of course, they will also benefit from managed car parking, 24-hour concierge and an unrivalled selection of shops, bars, restaurants, leisure facilities and beautiful landscaping.

It's in vogue that's for sure, as many people are taking to waterside living this year as the most popular choice for 2017. Waking up to a stunning view of the River Thames every day is hard to beat and with this one, you can pretty much see the whole thing – it really is a place taking it one step above all the rest.

The Tower Penthouse, Imperial Road SW6 2FB; berkeleygroup.co.uk



have seen before

BESTIN SHOWS

Our selection of some of the finest new pieces from the September design fairs

Story KARA O'REILLY





Graphic designs

Abstract pattern maestros Eley Kishimoto teamed up with Kirkby Design to create a range of eye-catching, tactile, luxe fabrics and wallpapers launched earlier this year in Milan. The prints were put to good use in the VIP and Press areas of Design Junction.

Fabrics, from £75 per m; wallpaper, from £90 per 10m roll. kirkbydesign.com



Good woods

Forest & Found, AKA Max Bainbridge and Abigail Booth, exhibited these lovely wooden vessels, alongside their subtle textile work, as part of their contribution to the British Crafts Pavilion – one of the 14 specialist pavilions at this year's London Design Fair.

Vessels, made to order, forest-and-found.com



Take a seat

The gorgeous Gleda armchair designed by Space Copenhagen was part of the new collection of seven pieces by Benchmark, the British craft furniture makers co-founded by Sir Terence Conran and Sean Sutcliffe, on show at Decorex.

Gleda high armchair with metal arms by Space Copenhagen, £2,550, and Eleanor coffee table by Byron & Gomez, £1,650, both benchmarkfurniture.com





Seating arrangements

The Miyazaki Chair Factory collection from Japan, which is now exclusively available in the UK through Aram, was officially launched during London Design Festival. Creating chairs and tables using traditional skills, the company produces pieces from both Danish and Japanese designers – both past masters and current practitioners. IS lounge chair by Inoda & Sveje, made to order, aram.co.uk

Floor show

Alternative Flooring launched its Margo Selby Stripes collection, which includes rugs and runners as well as carpet. Textile designer Selby chose three contemporary colour palettes for her range of stripe styles – from ticking to block - for gloriously bold flooring that packs a punch.

£73 per sq m, alternativeflooring.com

BEST OF THE REST



Timorous Beasties

This is Tropical Clouded Leopard, the newest fabric and paper



To coincide with Decorex's 40th anniversary celebrations, Mini Moderns launched their 10 year anniversary wallpaper collection - and largest yet - Saturday

Night/Sunday Morning at the

show (minimoderns.com)

Mini Moderns

Ochre

Another anniversary - this time 21 years - more launches to celebrate. Highend lighting and furniture specialists, Ochre, brought out Sungaya, this rather fabulous leather-wrapped floor lamp with silk shade. (ochre.net)



print by dynamic pattern purveyors, Timorous Beasties. As with many of their well-known designs, it has a dark edge, with the leopard shown preying on a tropical bird. (timorousbeasties.com)



Design Junction (thedesignjunction.co.uk); London Design Fair (londondesignfair.co.uk); 100% Design (100percentdesign.co.uk)



Swarovski Crystal Palace

Hoorah! Swarovski and Tord Boontje once again teamed up to produce a brand-new LED chandelier, called Luminous Reflections. The only question is whether it will become as iconic as the exauisite Blossom chandelier produced under the same collaboration back in 2002. (swarovskigroup.com)



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Open now, the Residence at John Lewis is the UK's first ever fullyfurnished in-store apartment, offering the ultimate try-before-you-buy experience to sleep over and host dinner parties for family and friends. Fully kitted out, down to food in the fridge and clothes in the wardrobe, the Oxford Street Residence features a study and indoor terrace overlooking Cavendish Square. The plush London apartment has been valued by Savills at 62m.





Sight and sound

'Sound is more than half the picture.' These words are at the heart of Bang & Olufsen's identity and the BeoVision Eclipse is a reflection of the design and supreme acoustics associated with the company. The new TV integrates a three-channel SoundCentre and a visual appearance that mixes glass with coloured fabric or aluminium. And for the first time it merges LG Electronics' OLED TV technology, which is renowned for the ability to reproduce the most lifelike images.

Prices start from £8,290; bang-olufsen.com

INTERIORS NOTEBOOK

New launches from Bang & Olufsen and BAGNODESIGN



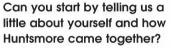
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ASKING FOR MORE

We speak to Huntsmore founder Eamonn Agha to find out what makes his project management company so unique in the Royal Borough

Words MARK KEBBLE



Huntsmore was set up in 2014 to act as an independent project management firm to work solely on the client's behalf. We have extensive restoration and renovation experience, with a particular focus on period properties. This is ultimately where Huntsmore adds most value, overseeing and managing the design and build out of these beautiful historic properties.

What have you been up to recently?

We have just finished a top to bottom refurbishment of a large five-bedroom Victorian house in Wandsworth, SW18. The clients, a couple who both had demanding City jobs, needed an independent project manager to oversee things on a day to day basis. We were engaged at the design phase at the very beginning and saw the project through to the completion

of the build. The clients were a pleasure to deal with and the end result was truly stunning!

We are currently engaged in a 'back to brick' reconfiguration and renovation of a large lateral apartment in a red-brick mansion block in Victoria, SW1.

Huntsmore were appointed from the outset and dealt with all the various stakeholders [management company, freeholder to name but a few!] – the project is due to finish end of October.

What is it that sets you apart as a design and build company?

Huntsmore operate as an independent project manager working on behalf of the client. Project management / project co-ordination is traditionally a function carried out by the architect or designer, or alternatively by a main contractor. Huntsmore differ by working solely for the client and therefore can act with impartiality, advising the client accordingly. We oversee the design and build phases to ensure that the customer's vision is realised and to add as much value to the property as possible.

Can you talk us through how you approach new projects?

This is dependent upon at which point Huntsmore is engaged as a project manager. If the scheme is needing substantial design and planning, we will discuss this with the client and appoint the relevant property professionals: interior architects, structural engineers or party wall surveyors for example.

If Huntsmore are appointed to run the build phase only, we will appoint a main contractor from our trusted network of builders and tradesmen, and oversee the construction works to the client's designs. One of our project managers will run the entire project from start to finish, liaising with all parties and then work around the client's schedule to relay all progress reports.

What advice would you give prospective clients?

A key consideration is to spend time at the design phase to plan effectively before any building work starts. This will ultimately save time and money in the long run. This includes basic layout plans, but also electrical and lighting maps as wiring set-ups have to be installed in advance.

The other advice would be to consider hiring a project manager. The prospect of fully renovating your home can feel like a daunting



task, so getting professionals in to manage the process for you can save time and money in the long run. No project is without its stresses, but with the right team on board from day one you can reduce this and keep on track to create the home you envisioned.

Why did you choose Kensington as a base for your company?

I grew up in Kensington and have an in-depth knowledge of the streets and properties of the area. The company decided to be based on Kensington High Street, W8, as the majority of the projects we undertake are based in the Royal Borough. We have always felt that it is crucial to be close to our projects to ensure we execute a renovation in the manner that our clients expect. Kensington is a great base to service projects in Holland Park, South Kensington, Knightsbridge and Fulham.

Is there one project you have undertaken in the area that really stands out for you?

We undertook the full reconfiguration and renovation of a two-bedroom maisonette in Holland Park last year. Huntsmore began by re-designing the cramped and dark space into a spacious and light one bedroom apartment, as per the client's requirements. Huntsmore also engaged with the freeholder and ran all the permits to alter to make sure the build work could commence.

The kitchen was relocated to the lower ground (previously the spare bedroom). Extensive structural work was carried out to open up the space and to allow more light into the property. The master bedroom's en-suite was relocated

to the vault under the entry steps, creating a larger living space. The result was a fantastic, spacious property and the clients were thrilled with the result.

What's to come from you?

We hope to develop further by creating an in-house interior design capability that will allow us to offer our clients more services, not just project management. We want to build a business and brand that is synonymous with a high-quality finish as well as excellent customer service.

Please call 020 7484 5745 or visit huntsmore.com

FIXTURES LIST

Any of the extras that you select for your bathroom – from the taps to the towels – are the perfect way to introduce a bit of personality to this most practical of spaces

Story KARA O'REILLY



Cool radiator

Bathroom radiators are for heating the room, airing your towels and, if you so choose, another way to add a designer touch if you select a striking piece from one of the specialist suppliers.

Archibald radiator, from £678, bisque.co.uk





Go touchy feely with striking textural tiles. Alternatively play with colour, pattern, shape – or even just a hit of coloured grouting – for a more modern way with bathroom walls.

WOW Hexa 3D tiles, from £180 per sq m, Stone & Ceramic Warehouse, sacw.co.uk

Open and shutter

Shutters are a practical choice for a bathroom window. Choose café styles, which allow you to adjust privacy and light levels as necessary.

Select a coloured finish or attractive wood type for interest.

Cork bathroom shutter, from £299 per sq m, shutterlyfabulous.com





Floor show

Don't play it safe with your flooring. Try experimenting with graphic patterns or strong colours. Just remember this approach works best on either the walls or floors – not both.

Handmade and hand-decorated Marrakech tiles in Hammam, £19.95 per tile; Babylon copper bath, £6,650; Avebury bath and shower mixer, £1,125 and walls painted in Top Hat matt emulsion, £39.50 for 2.51, all firedearth.com



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Tonal towels

The easiest – and most affordable – way to create a different mood or look in your bathroom? With the accessories. Think coloured towels, or the likes of interesting soap dishes and toothbrush mugs.

Large hem towel, £12; khaki and pink linen washed towels, £12 each; two-tone soap dish, £9; all other items, from a selection, all by Gray & Willow, houseoffraser.co.uk







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TAP INTO CREATIVITY

For bathroom design inspiration and advice, the flagship BAGNODESIGN showroom in Chelsea is the place to visit

ocated in the heart of the capital's interior design hub on Chelsea's Kings Road, the new BAGNODESIGN European flagship showroom offers a welcoming, inspirational and interactive environment where you can find everything needed to create your dream bathroom.

Part of the Sanipex Group established in 1994, BAGNODESIGN is an international manufacturer and supplier of design-led bathroom solutions. With additional showrooms in Harrogate, Redbrick Mill, Bradford, Edinburgh and Glasgow, the BAGNODESIGN brand is going from strength to strength throughout the UK.

Helping create unusual and eyecatching bathrooms, the BAGNODESIGN portfolio

features creative and practical solutions in a wide variety of materials and finishes. The

company's full collection

encompasses every area of bathroom design including sanitaryware, brassware, showering, furniture and accessories. From the aspiring home owner looking to create their dream bathroom, to key projects by residential developers, hospitality groups and prestigious institutional buildings, the brand's comprehensive and integrated

The latest collections

include a range

inspired by the Art

Deco era

collections can be found across the board.

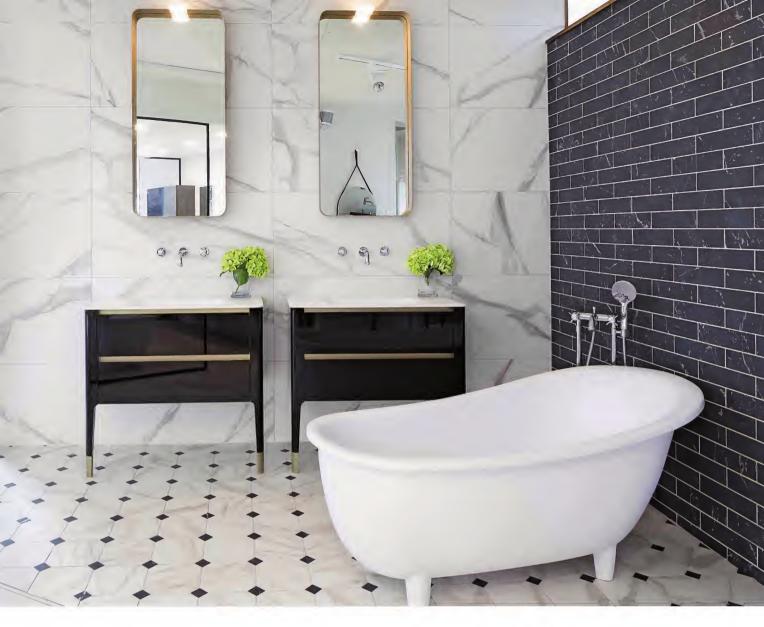
Spanning across two floors, the showroom on Chelsea's Kings Road has over 40

inspiring fully dressed displays, showing off the products in a complete and realistic setting, plus a Tile Studio, an accessory store, working steam and shower displays and a Café BAGNO and bar.

From cutting edge and retro furniture displays, to unique and special brassware finishes, each display shows off the best of BAGNODESIGN. Visitors to the Chelsea showroom can see the very latest collections that reflect current interior design trends. These include Art, an Italian furniture range that is inspired by the Art Deco era while being distinctively modern in its detail, and Funktion, a modern range of







ceramics and storage solutions. New finishes on brassware are also displayed, such as matt black, matt white or brushed copper from the minimalist Options Cylinder showerheads. These share space with on-trend slim-rim ceramics, washbasins in a variety of materials including metal and stone, luxurious freestanding baths crafted from a highly durable composite stone and accessories for that allimportant finishing touch. The showroom also includes products from international leading brands such as Nicolazzi, Galassia and Bossini, offering customers the very best from these prestigious names.

Luxurious and stylish products are only part of the BAGNODESIGN story though, with an experienced and professional design team always on hand to offer advice and help create the ideal bathroom space, working with customers every step of the way from planning through to installation. Irrespective of design intent or budget, BAGNODESIGN in Chelsea has a solution, whether customers are looking for a simple robe hook or their very own steam room, a walk-in rain shower or the finest Italian tiles.

For those in the interiors industry, the showroom is the ideal spot to meet with clients and fellow professionals. You will be surrounded by the very latest ideas in bathrooms, with a wide array of beautiful, luxurious products to inspire your next designs.

Drop into the BAGNODESIGN showroom at 648 Kings Road SW6 2DU and start creating your dream bathroom. For more call 020 7553 6999 or visit bagnodesignlondon. com/eur/chelsea-showroom/





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HOMES INSIDER

Kara O'Reilly rounds up what's hot in interiors

TV times

Good to see that more designers are turning their attention to tackling the challenge of the large blank KARA'S choice

rectangle that is the modern TV. Post every firm making them as thin and high-tech as possible, the Bouroullec brothers were among the first to re-imagine the telly with their mid-centuryish Serif design for Samsung. Now comes Brit-based designer Bodo Sperlein's elegant, sculptural Bild 9 TV for Loewe – one of the most innovative television manufacturers in the world. When it's next time to update your box in the corner, this is the one worth checking out.

From £6,999, loewe.tv





HOT OFF THE PRESS

Chic boutiques

Two new interiors emporiums have recently opened their doors in London town. First up, Silvera, a family-run Parisian firm that specialises in contemporary design, stocking pieces from an array of high-end European companies such as Cassina, Hay, Petite Friture, Brokis and Christofle, at 241-245 King's Road, SW3 5EL (silveraltd.co.uk). Not too far away, Arteriors, a luxury American firm, has launched its London showroom on the Third Floor of Chelsea Harbour Design Centre, SW10 0XF (arteriorshome.com). So now there's even more reason to make SW London one of your key destinations when shopping for your home.



Mini Trend Monochrome patterns



Perdita oven-to-table dish, £20, habitat.co.uk

ROOMS to BELIVED IN

How Neptune can revitalise your home at any point throughout the year

here's a reason that our living rooms are so called. They're a room to be lived in, to laugh in, to relax in, perhaps more than any other room in the home. At Neptune, while they believe in treating every aspect of their interiors as living spaces, they know that the living room will always be the place where we all flock to when we're in need of true down time. So it's important to update it every once in a while to keep it fresh, to keep it alive.

Changes to a living room's aesthetic can be as radical or as simple as you please. You might wish to go down the path of total overhaul, where every aspect is reconsidered and potentially replaced. But a refresh doesn't necessarily require such drastic action. Paint is one of our home's most versatile layers. It's a way to introduce new colour in a large expanse at relatively little cost, or it can be used on a smaller scale, to repaint furniture or to colour in elements like window and door frames. Teal may be the colour for autumn/winter 2017 at Neptune, but their paint collection houses a further 28 core colours to explore, as well as seasonal shades in their paint archive that they have stored for safe keeping.

From here, consider replacing a key piece of living room furniture, such as a sofa to inject a large dose of change, or bringing in a new armchair if your sofa has many years of enjoyment left. You could even think about purchasing fabric by the metre to have an existing









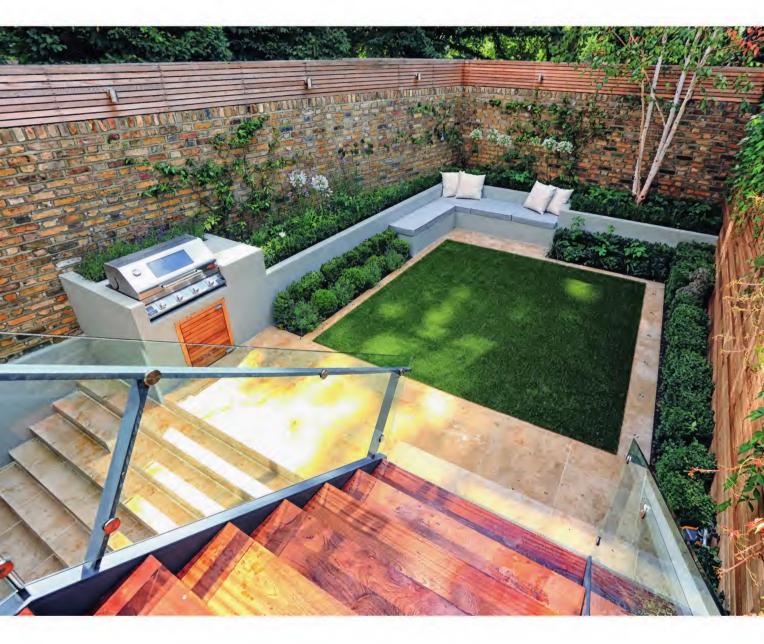
sofa, armchair or footstool reupholstered, or to create new curtains, cushions or other soft textile to accent your scheme.

And never ever forget the power of accessories. Used in isolation, they'll certainly provide an update, but they work best when they're brought into a room with a good amount of thought, so that they complement your current interior

while offering a point of difference, or that they correspond to your other updates, so the entire look comes together beautifully, purposefully and with just the right amount of impact for the new season and beyond...

Neptune Wimbledon, 168-178 The Broadway SW19 1RX; 020 3362 8240; neptune.com





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PROPERTY

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SITTINGPRETTY

Nova Victoria is reshaping the area in more ways than one

Recently completed, The Nova Building hosts a collection of 170 beautiful apartments, including one outstanding duplex penthouse now on the market for £20million. To find out more about it, turn over the page...



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Whether you're buying, selling, renting or letting, head for our new South Kensington office at 90 Old Brompton Road.
You'll be there in two shakes of a T.Rex's tail.

Wilton Row, SW1 Guide Price: £5.500.000

Wilton Row is a tucked away mews, the most attractive and convenient of Belgravia locations with a winding cobbled street and courtyard incorporating private parking.

The two-bedroom property is four storeys high with a circular staircase and servant's stairwell leading down to a large eat in kitchen and entertaining space. The kitchen has gneissic stone bench tops and timber cabinetry with top of the range appliances including a subzero fridge. In the kitchen there is also a wine cellar hidden behind paneling. The property incorporates a spectacular two storey high drawing room with windows on three sides. A mezzanine sitting room looks over the drawing room on the ground floor and has an office within an alcove as well as a separate shower room.

The top floor is accessed by the spiral staircase and has both a guest bedroom suite and a main suite with a large walk-in dressing room. The juliette balcony in the main bedroom suite overlooks the cobbled courtyard. The property is air-conditioned and also has the benefit of a B&W sound system.

For more information contact Humberts on 020 3284 1888 or visit humberts.com



PROPERTY NEWS

New launches that are reaching the heights



Location, location, location

hiltern Place spans 16 storeys and comprises 55 high quality apartments and a four-bedroom townhouse. It is positioned on the corner of Chiltern Street and Paddington Street, where the charming Marylebone village is renowned for its lively café culture, specialist independent shops, designer boutiques and popular high street brands. PLP Architecture designed a contemporary building to complement the architectural heritage of the area. The development takes inspiration from the established character of the Marylebone neighbourhood with the use of carefully selected materials such as hand-set terracotta and a bronze façade. Designed to maximise natural light and views, all

Chiltern Place is due for completion in late 2017, see chilternplace.com. Prices start from £1.95m for a one bedroom apartment and Knight Frank and Savills are joint selling agents

the apartments have ceiling heights of 2.75m.



Gateway to Marylebone

West End Gate is one of the largest regeneration schemes of its kind in Marylebone with a striking 30 storey tower, The Westmark, offering panoramic views of the London skyline. The scheme will provide 542 luxury homes, across five buildings complete with a landscaped garden and piazza with linear water feature, swimming pool, spa, private cinema, 24 hour concierge, gym and private parking. West End Gate will provide residents with a rare opportunity to live between two of London's Royal Parks and within walking distance of the Marylebone High Street, Little Venice and Mayfair.

berkeleygroup.co.uk





Room to explore

On the doorstep of Buckingham Palace, a stone's throw from Belgravia and within walking distance of Pimlico, Knightsbridge and Mayfair, Nova, Victoria is a stylish destination for living, working, shopping and dining. Recently completed, The Nova Building hosts a collection of 170 beautiful apartments, including one outstanding duplex penthouse now on the market for £20 million. Putting Victoria firmly on the map, it's time to experience and explore one of London's newest and most vibrant districts.

novasw1.com

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On the RIGHT TRACK

Much anticipated rail and tube extensions will make living in the capital easier

Words FIONA BRANDHORST

rossrail's arrival is just now over a year away, yet savvy investors and owner-occupiers have been buying in locations up and down the Elizabeth Line in anticipation of price growth since construction began in 2009. David Fell, Research Analyst at Hamptons International, says as the prospect of the new service starts getting close to reality, owner-occupiers buyers have increasingly been taking the place of investors. 'The effect of Crossrail has pushed up prices and attracted investment into areas along the route,' he adds.

From the Docklands to central London, developers have been busy creating some of London's

most cutting edge homes often with eye-catching views of the capital, yet as the Elizabeth Line follows existing stations along its route, iconic period property is also

within a stunning stucco fronted period building on Cleveland Square and minutes from Paddington Station is being marketed by KFH for £1.385m. There's a share of the freehold and use of the private gardens at the centre of the square. Cycle parking, a communal roof terrace as well as a private balcony leading from the bedroom and living room is available with a one bedroom apartment at Paddington Exchange for £875,000 through Hamptons International.

Chiltern Place provides an







opportunity to live in the highest new building in Marylebone, a short walk to both Paddington and Bond Street Stations. Prices start from £1.95m for a one bedroom apartment through Knight Frank and Savills.

Located just three minutes from Custom House DLR station, where Liverpool Street will be ten minutes away and Heathrow 45 minutes on the Elizabeth Line, Mount Anvil's Royal Docks West offers 105 studio, one, two and three-bedroom homes. The kitchen and living areas have full-height windows, maximizing the light and the spectacular waterside views.

Jon Hall, Sales Director Mount Anvil, comments: 'The range of sporting facilities and lifestyle amenities and the proximity to London's financial and business centres will make this one of London's most popular neighbourhoods.' Prices start from £465,000 for a one-bedroom apartment and completions are scheduled from late 2018.

Bellway's Turnberry Quay, a new 12-storey Dockside development, will be moments from Crossrail at Canary Wharf. Prices start from £759,995 for a two bedroom apartment. Goodman's Fields, Berkeley Homes Aldgate development, is served by Whitechapel Station on the new line. Residents can enjoy a health club with a heated indoor swimming pool and spa, gym with dedicated spin studio, a private screening room, a business lounge and 24-hour concierge. A Curzon Cinema has also just opened nearby. Prices at Neroli House at Goodman's Fields start at £735,000 for a studio apartment through Knight Frank and JLL with completions at the end of 2019.

South of the river, tunnelling for the £1.2bn Northern Line extension has now begun, connecting the tube line to Battersea and is the first major expansion of the Underground since the Jubilee line in the 1990s. Two new stations in Nine Elms and Battersea Power Station are due to open in 2020.

The Residence at Nine Elms comprising one, two and three bedroom apartments will be minutes away from the new Nine Elms Station. Prices start at £611,000 for a one-bedroom apartment. St William has unveiled a new collection of apartments at its flagship Battersea development, Prince of Wales Drive, drawing inspiration from the 19th Century gasholders that once stood on site. The 72 one, two and threebedroom apartments feature openplan living spaces and a covered outdoor terrace or balcony, many of which offer unrivalled views of Battersea Park and Battersea Power Station. I





Marsham Street, Westminster SW1

A fabulous lateral apartment located on the sixth floor of an Art Deco mansion block. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, shower room, reception room, dining room, kitchen, balcony, communal roof terrace, 24 hour concierge, parking, lift. EPC: C. Approximately 136 sq m (1,463 sq ft). victoriasales@knightfrank.com

Office: 020 3641 6006



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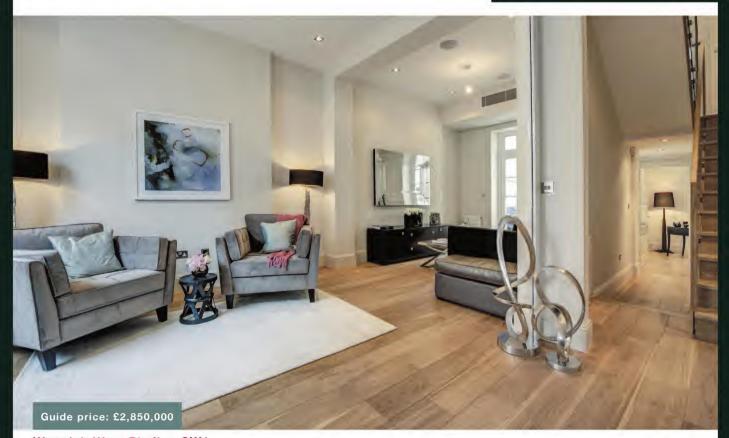
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Warwick Way, Pimlico SW1

A beautifully refurbished townhouse offering two terraces and four storeys of excellent accommodation. 4-5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, shower room, 2-3 reception rooms, kitchen, study, patio, 2 terraces. EPC: D. Approximately 214 sq m (2,301 sq ft). victoriasales@knightfrank.com

Office: 020 3641 6006







Sailmakers Court, Fulham SW6

Beautifully designed two bedroom apartment in Regent on the River

Impressive apartment in Sailmakers Court on the River Thames. This property has been finished to an extremely high standard and is tastefully decorated throughout. Well-proportioned with both bedrooms featuring ensuite bathrooms and the reception area benefits from a south-east facing balcony. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen/reception room, balcony, porter/concierge, private parking. EPC: C. Approximately 121 sq m (1,302 sq ft).

Leasehold: approximately 971 years remaining.

KnightFrank.co.uk/riverside riverside@knightfrank.com 020 3641 5935









Buckingham Palace Road, Victoria SW1

Fantastic two bedroom apartment in The Nova Building

An incredible apartment located on the fifth floor of this new development by Land Securities offering a ninth floor communal roof garden and private residents' lounge, gym, cinema and business centre. Master bedroom with en suite bathroom, second bedroom, family shower room, open plan reception room/kitchen, 24 hour concierge, lift. EPC: B. Approximately 88.5 sq m (953 sq ft).

Available furnished

Guide price: £1,150 per week

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Chester Street, Belgravia SW1

An elegant Grade II listed Georgian house

An exceptional family house with outstanding scale and proportion. This south facing Georgian house is located in a prime residential street to the east of Belgrave Square and has access to the communal gardens (by arrangement). 8 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, drawing room, dining room, kitchen, breakfast room, study, 2 cloakrooms, laundry room, wine cellar, terrace, garden. Approximately 358 sq m (3,858 sq ft).

Leasehold: expires 25th December 2040

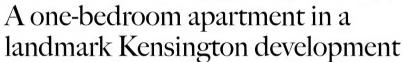
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Lord Kensington House, Kensington W14

- Open plan reception
- · Courtyard facing balcony
- 24-hour concierge and security
- · Swimming pool, spa and gym
- Cinema
- Approx. 512sq ft / 47.56sq m





GUIDE PRICE £950,000

LEASEHOLD
APPROXIMATELY 992 YEARS

EPC RATING

В

CONTACT KENSINGTON OFFICE +44 (0)20 3650 4600 kathryn.campbell@harrodsestates.com



A beautifully presented terraced townhouse with uninterrupted river views

Chiswick Quay, Chiswick W4

- Five bedrooms
- Over 2,500sq ft
- Cinema and utility room
- Potential to extend subject to planning
- Generous private parking area
- Abundance of light throughout





GUIDE PRICE

FREEHOLD

EPC RATING

CONTACT
CHELSEA OFFICE
+44 (0)20 7225 5752
francis.burca@harrodsestates.com







HARRODS ESTATES LUXURY PROPERTY AGENTS

Established 1897



A grand two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartment

Sussex Gardens, Hyde Park W2

- Grade II listed stucco fronted building
- An exceptional raised ground floor apartment
- Private entrance

- Fantastic entertaining space
- High ceilings
- Located moments from Hyde Park





GUIDE PRICE £2,345,000

LEASEHOLD
APPROXIMATELY 148 YEARS

EPC RATING

D

CONTACT
MAYFAIR OFFICE
+44 (0)20 7409 9205
andrew.brennan@harrodsestates.com



A stylish two-bedroom apartment at this prestigious Knightsbridge address.

Hans Place, Knightsbridge SW1

- Large bright reception
- Two double bedrooms
- Two en suite bathrooms
- Second floor with lift
- Refurbished to the highest specification
- Approx. 978sq ft/ 90.86sq m





GUIDE PRICE £2.950.000

LEASEHOLD APPROXIMATELY 984 YEARS

EPC RATING

CONTACT KNIGHTSBRIDGE OFFICE +44 (0)20 7225 8044 jake.irwin-brown@harrodsestates.com







BORN TO SERVE

Three developments where five-star concierge offerings are just the norm

Words MARK KEBBLE

Hempel Gardens

Amazon Property & British Land

Located in the heart of Bayswater, Hempel Gardens is an elegant collection of luxury apartments, part of The Hempel Collection, a wider development by Amazon Property, a prime central London developer, and British Land, one of Europe's largest publicly listed real estate companies.

Concierge company, Bruton of Sloane Street, is responsible for the management of the building. Drawing on an extensive and established network, Bruton will give residents and their guests access to the very best of London through its exclusive Chatelaine service, providing access to the capital's most exclusive cultural events, as well as home and lifestyle management including sommelier and wine cellaring, yoga and personal training, education and art consultancy.

Andrew Kafkaris, Founding Partner at Bruton of Sloane Street, says: 'Today's

residents of prime London property are primarily business people operating in a global marketplace, who may demand the level of service you would find in the world's finest hotels. Our real estate professionals deliver that service. Whether it's a night at the opera, a personal training session or tickets for the Wimbledon finals, Chatelaine makes it happen and, most importantly, when returning home from the office or the airport, Bruton ensures that the sanctuary of home prevails.'

The Hempel Collection comprises 33 private residences, of which only four remain and are all uniquely arranged around a stunning garden square. Prices start at £2.55m for a two bedroom apartment.

For enquiries contact Knight Frank on 020 7861 5499 or Strutt & Parker on 020 7318 4677. thehempelcollection.com









Chiltern Place

Ronson Capital Partners

Positioned on the corner of Chiltern Street and Paddington Street, Chiltern Place is a new residential development by Ronson Capital Partners, a real estate investment company. As well as a fantastic location moments from Chiltern Firehouse and Marylebone High Street, residents at Chiltern Place also benefit from exclusive access to a private club with meeting spaces and a lounge area, as well as a fully equipped fitness suite. Other services include on-site concierge, 24 hour security, bicycle storage, valet parking and optional car parking space.

Chiltern Place spans 16 storeys and comprises 55 high quality apartments and a four bedroom townhouse. The project is designed by renowned PLP Architecture to complement the heritage of the Marylebone neighbourhood, with the use of terracotta and bronze façade.

Prices start from \$1.95m for a one bedroom apartment. Knight Frank and Savills are the joint selling agents, see more at chilternplace.com

Chelsea Island

Hadley Property Group

Chelsea Island is a unique collection of 89 luxury apartments in the heart of Chelsea's designer hub. The new scheme introduces a collection of one, two, three and four bedroom apartments, private rooftop courtyards, and outdoor space at the gateway to Chelsea Creek riverside, and marks the final phase in the regeneration of Chelsea Harbour.

Chelsea Island will provide residents with a 24-hour concierge service, committed to



offering residents a five-star service, similar to that of a hotel in the comfort of their own home. The concierge will do everything from booking residents their favourite restaurant, arranging international transfers, to taking care of keys and waiting in for shopping deliveries.

Hadley Property Group will also be partnering with a luxury London hotel in order to provide the highest standard events planner, which will allow each homeowner to make the most of the stunning sky garden and business facilities available, organising private parties and business events in the lobby, business lounge or the many private roof terraces.

Prices start from \$935,000 for a one bedroom apartment. To register your interest contact Hadley Property Group on 0800 540 4377 or visit chelseaisland.com





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bestgapp.co.uk

EATON PLACE, SWI

Leasehold £7,500,000





A truly elegant, spacious and extremely well decorated apartment arranged over the upper and garden floors. The apartment has a fabulous double reception/dining room and master bedroom suite as well as benefiting from an unusually large secluded terrace, accessed directly from the principle entertainment areas.



A private patio garden leads off three of the bedroom suites creating a country outlook whilst situated in a traditional white stucco fronted building - a rare treat. In addition there is a private staff bedroom and utility room accessed by a separate staircase next to the kitchen. Approximately 324.9 sqm (3497sqft).



- Leasehold (108 yrs unexpired)
- Kitchen
- 3 Reception rooms
- Terrace
- 4 Bedrooms
- 3 Bathrooms (en suite)
- Utility room
- Cloakroom
- Shower room
- · EPC (D)

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BELGRAVIA COURT, SWI

£645 pw





An outstanding one bedroom apartment located on the second floor within a secure block in the heart of Belgravia, benefiting from a passenger lift and porterage.



The accommodation comprises reception room with wood flooring, fully fitted modern kitchen, double bedroom with wardrobe storage and en-suite bathroom, plus an additional separate shower room with wc. The property has excellent natural light throughout.



- Furnished
- Kitchen
- Reception room
- Entrance hall
- Bedroom
- Porter
- Bathroom
- Lif
- Shower room
- EPC (F)





SEASONAL CHANGE

This autumn's property season will see opportunities for new purchases, as well as potential to gain from current homes and investments

s we approach the autumn peak time of year for the UK property market, buyers and property owners should not only be looking at approaching opportunities in the market – but also where they could profit through past purchases.

Stamp Duty Land Tax (SDLT), the tax you pay when purchasing a property, has recently attracted widespread attention due to discussion around its need for reform in light of recent HMRC figures released on the level of tax collected by the Treasury in the last year. These figures indicate that over £2bn has been raised in the past 12 months from the second homes tax, aimed at buyto-let landlords and second home owners. There is a silver lining for not only buy-to-let landlords and second home owners, but all homeowners who have purchased a property within the past four years.

Cornerstone Tax, the leading experts in Stamp Duty Land Tax (SDLT) in the UK for over a decade, have launched a new service line, SDLT Refunds, a specialist division created to meet the huge demand from thousands of consumers who could have overpaid SDLT in the last four years. It is estimated that more than £3bn has been overpaid in 2015-2016 and this service is aimed at getting homeowners and investors back on the right track with what they should be paying.

How does SDLT Refunds work?

The rife miscalculation of SDLT is attributed to the incorrect classification of assets prepurchase of a property, by both buyers and their advisors. Cornerstone's new service assesses whether house buyers have had their assets misclassified and, if this is the case, claims the appropriate refund on behalf of the applicant from HMRC.

What is the success rate?

During a 12-month pilot of its new service, Cornerstone Tax achieved the successful conversion of more than 95% of applications for SDLT refunds. These individuals had typically paid twice as much SDLT as legally required. With 2015-16 SDLT revenues recorded at £7.3bn, this leaves annual overpayments projected at more than £3bn across the UK.

SDLT

SDLT is a fixed tax paid by property purchasers in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Changes were made to UK SDLT rates in 2014, from a 'slab' payment to a 'slice' system, whereby there is no tax on house purchases up to the value of £125,000, 2% tax on the amount of purchase price between that and £250,000, 5% in the band up to £925,000, 10% between that and £1.5m and 12% for everything over.

Find out more at saltrefunds.co.uk

MY DREAM HOME

Taking the law into your own hands



LINCOLNS INN COURT



The Penthouse, Lincolns Inn Court, WC2 Robert Cox, Harrods Estates

Why is it a great buy...

The Penthouse is located in the legal quarter of London, between the City and West End, which is so tranquil and peaceful you could easily

forget you are in the centre of London. This exceptional property offers genuine value, particularly in comparison to the nearby new developments, making this an excellent purchase opportunity.

The wow factor...

The views across the tree tops and the London skyline, coupled with design, layout and presentation of the property cannot fail to impress: immaculately presented, all any buyer will require is their suitcase, which can be easily brought in via direct lift access to both floors. The green and leafy views of Lincolns Inn Square and Gardens during the day create a very calming environment, while at night the view of London's skyscrapers and historic

buildings will blow you away.

Who it would suit...

The location of this property

would attract many buyers: only moments from some of the most prestigious legal chambers and courts in the country anyone associated with the legal profession is bound to find the location both attractive and convenient. Equally it is only moments from London's theatre land. The Penthouse will appeal to buyers, whether for personal use or investment, as it offers easy access to The City and West End, and would appeal greatly to many tenants (Google's new UK headquarters are only a short walk away, as are numerous chambers and universities).

My favourite room...

The reception room with wrap around balcony is certainly a contender, but for me, the master bedroom with its floor to celling windows and direct views on to Lincolns Inn Gardens pips it. I am not a

morning person by any stretch of the imagination, but even I would gladly wake to the still and tranquil easterly view of the trees as the sun rises and light plays through the leaves.

Why you should buy it...

It is a wonderful penthouse, with generous outdoor space in a beautiful and historic location, immaculately presented and is available with all furniture: personal relocation or letting to tenants could not be easier and the price is compelling.

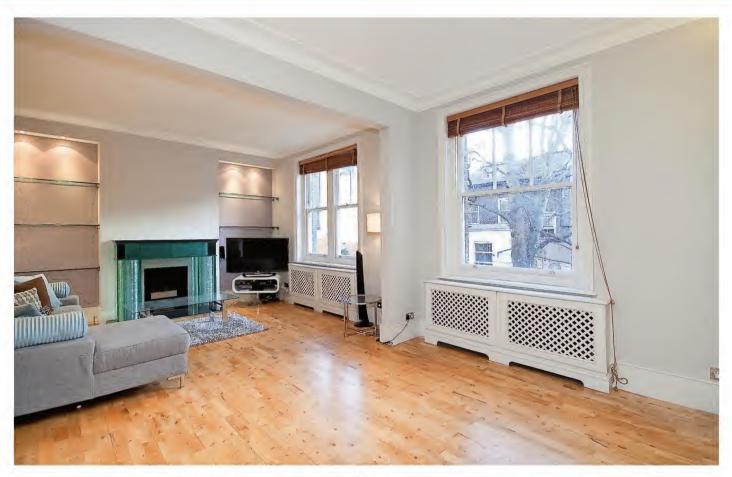
The Penthouse at Lincolns Inn Court, £2,550,000.
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robert.cox@harrodsestates.com;
harrodsestates.com



 ${\it Claimer: These \ are \ real \ residents, who \ really \ do \ live \ in \ Embassy \ Gardens! \ Images \ from \ Instagram \ @embassy \ gardens \ \#embassy \ gardens \ }$

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DRAYTON GARDENS, SW10

Excellent 1st floor mansion flat, quietly situated at the rear of the building. 1173 sq feet. EPC Rating D

3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, Double Reception Room, Kitchen/Dining Room, Lift, Balcony, Wood Floors, Inclusive of Hot Water

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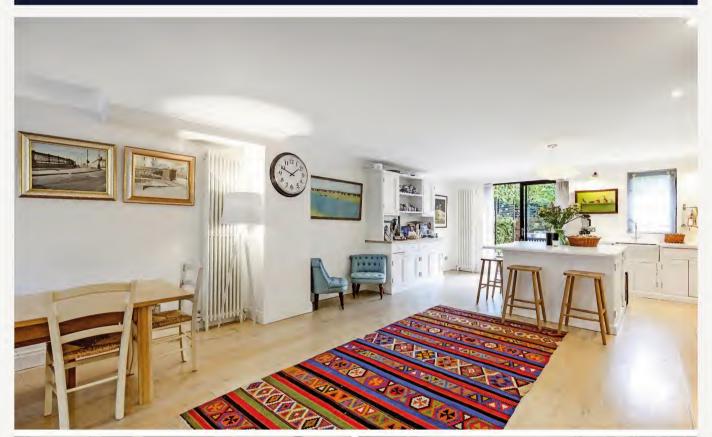
£1,250 PER WEEK *FEES APPLY

*£264 inc of VAT to include tenancy agreement & referencing per property. Please contact us for further information





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ANHALT ROAD, SW11

A family house forming part of the Waterside Point development, located 0.1 miles from Albert Bridge and Battersea Park's riverside path.

- Reception room Eat-in kitchen 4 Bedrooms 3 Bathrooms Balcony
- Garden 2 Parking spaces 24hr Concierge EPC rating C

£2,500,000 FREEHOLD

CHELSEA

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JACKSON-STOPS







ALDERNEY STREET, SW1V

A five bedroom freehold house, located on a prime residential street within the Pimlico Grid, SW1.

- 2 Reception rooms Dining room Kitchen 5 Bedrooms 3 Bathrooms
- Roof terrace Patio garden EPC rating E

£2,950,000 FREEHOLD

PIMLICO

020 7828 4050

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Local and National reach through a network of London and Regional offices



JACKSON-STOPS









WALTON STREET, SW3

A house set over three floors, located 0.4 miles from Harrods and South Kensington Underground Station.

• Double reception room/kitchen • Study • 4 Double bedrooms • 2 Bathrooms • Conservatory • Patio garden • EPC rating C Chelsea

£1,350 PER WEEK (*FEES APPLY)







WARWICK WAY, SW1V

A family house in Pimlico, located 0.2 miles from Eccleston Square and 0.4 miles from Victoria Station.

• Kitchen/family room • Formal reception room • Utility room • Master bedroom with en-suite • 4 Further bedrooms • 2 Further bathrooms • EPC rating D Pimlico

£1,450 PER WEEK (*FEES APPLY)



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Ovington Gardens, Chelsea SW3

£1,950,000 Share of Freehold











Well-appointed first floor (with lift), two bedroom flat with a share of freehold.

749 sq ft (69 sq m) | EPC rating D

Open plan kitchen/ reception room | Two double bedrooms | Bathroom | Balcony | Lift

Knightsbridge 020 7235 9959

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Dovehouse Street, Chelsea SW3



Light and spacious four bedroom family house situated in the heart of Chelsea.

£1,750 per week* Unfurnished



Chelsea 020 7589 9966 chelsea.lettings@struttandparker.com

2,066 sq ft (192 sq m) | EPC rating E Double reception room | Kitchen | Four double bedrooms | Three bathrooms | Balcony | Utility room | Guest closet

Holland Park Road, Holland Park W14



A stunning Grade II listed studio house on a picturesque courtyard with fabulous entertaining space and off-street parking.

1,990 sq ft (184 sq m) | EPC Rating F Kitchen/reception room | Two double bedrooms | Two shower rooms | Utility room | Cloakroom | Terrace | Parking

£2,250 per week* Furnished





Kensington 020 7938 3866 kensington.lettings@struttandparker.com

^{*} The following Tenant Charges may apply prior to tenancy commencement: Tenancy Agreement £222 (inc VAT) Credit References per application £54 (inc VAT).

All advertised prices are excluded of utility and other associated services.

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Rainsborough Square, Fulham SW6



An exceptional detached townhouse occupying the largest plot of this exclusive Concierge | Four bedroom suites | Two gated development.

4,134 sq ft (384 Sq m) | EPC rating B additional bedrooms | Cinema room | Underground parking | Large garden

£3,100 per week* Unfurnished





Fulham 020 7731 7100 fulham@struttandparker.com

St Michael's Mews, Belgravia SW1W



Incredibly quiet and secure mews house with underground parking and garden.

2,700 sq ft (250 sq m) | EPC rating C Two receptions | Kitchen | Three bedrooms Three bathrooms | Utility room | Garage | Garden | Porter

£3,500 per week* Unfurnished





Knightsbridge 020 7235 9996 knightsbridge@struttandparker.com

^{*} The following Tenant Charges may apply prior to tenancy commencement: Tenancy Agreement £222 (inc VAT) Credit References per application £54 (inc VAT). All advertised prices are excluded of utility and other associated services.







Cornwall Gardens Court, South Kensington, SW7

£1,650,000 Leasehold











A beautifully finished two bedroom apartment in South Kensington.

805 sq ft (74.78 sq m) | EPC rating D

Reception Room | Kitchen | Master Bedroom | Second Bedroom | Bathroom | Shower Room | Lift | Porter

South Kensington 020 7581 7000

south kensing to n@strutt and parker.com

STRUTT&PARKER

Sloane Gate Mansions, Knightsbridge SW1X

£1,800,000 Leasehold











A well appointed two bedroom flat with balcony and open views.

1,040 sq ft (96 sq m) | EPC rating D

Entrance hall | Drawing room | Kitchen/ breakfast room | Master bedroom | Bathroom | Second double bedroom with ensuite shower room | Lift | Resident caretaker

Knightsbridge 020 7235 9959

knightsbridge@struttandparker.com





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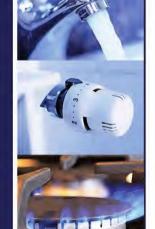


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